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A SHORT STORY.

John.

I'm not good at story-telling. But some way I've thought if I told this little thing there might be some one it would please. Not so much please as comfort, it may be, like sliding a hand within a body's when they're in trouble; for there's nothing like a quite hand-grip when one is in deep pain. But about this little history.

It isn't much, and it has a poor title, but if you knew how differently the name sounded from what it looks, staring there—how it makes me flash and thrill with love and deep feeling—you wouldn't think it so homely and plain.

Every one knew him, from the little bare footed children who sold clams and cockles, to the fine people at the hotel, who always took his yacht in place of the rest. As for him—I've a notion he might have made a good picture. He was as dark as an Indian, and as tall and lithe. He could swim the farthest and pull the strongest oar, and as for leaping and wrestling no one could begin with him. There was a rich dark red in the brown cheek, and when he smiled it was a pretty sight—such white teeth and such a strong mouth, with the laugh deepening his brown eyes.

John had always been my friend; he used to take me out in the yacht when he went with Joe, my brother, and stow me away on his jacket; and then, when I grew older, he was the same kind friend—for Joe's wife died and left me the housekeeper, and John used to come in when Joe had gone on a cruise to the cod fisheries, and bring in armfuls of wood; and in Winter make the paths, and sit down by the fire when the Winter nights were bad, and talk with me, and I've often seen him often to come in with a word of Joe and a kind talk with Charlie and me—that was before Charlie was old enough to go with his father in his trips—and I used to feel a kind of sisterly love for him. He was pretty much alone. His mother died, and he lived alone with old Nancy Bell, his aunt—a crossold woman—but she took good care of his home, and it was all the home she had on earth.

The Irvinghams were the richest people in the village. To be sure, they only came there in the summer, but the family had always lived there in the one old house, with its great park and lawn and hot-houses, before he died, used to be proud of—for he was gardener there thirty years ago, and mother had been Miss Emily's maid when he married her.

Miss Emily was old and not married, but her brother Alfred, with his wife and Miss Louie used to come back during the warm weather from their home in New York; and as Miss Emily was very kind to me, I used to go there very often for sewing, and could do up the fine laces and ruffles for her as no one but mother ever did, she said. Then, Miss Louie had been born at the Hall. That was before father died. So I used to go with him, and see her in the grounds playing, and play with her too (for they were very good to me always) and see her great wax dolls, with their silk and lace frocks, and her greyhound and pets. She never felt o bit above me—not even when she grew to be a young lady, the only heir of her father's wealth, when every summer she came often to see me, saying she loved me as well as her city friends, and she always loved the sea, and the other little things I used to like to fix for her. But this is not my story, after all

She was the fairest, daintiest little human I have ever seen—not more than a child in her ways and feelings—and yet, oh, sad, O! so very winning! She had the softest, whitest skin, and a pair of eyes as pretty as a spaniel's —though that is not a pretty thing to compare to Miss Louie. And her hair! It curled in little low rings when she was a child, and had a dark touch on it, of a goldy color in the light. It was the prettiest hair in the world; and so proud was her father! He would not let her cut it so she wore great long, loose curls, dropping down her shoulders to her hair, and drawn back from her brow with a blue ribbon. And such bright curls as there were on her forehead and behind her ears—little rings that the wind tossed about her eyes! I used to think she was the first lady of them all, with her sweet, pure ways, just as fresh as a little child's. So I do not wonder that any one could help loving Louie Irvingham.

I found out suddenly, that John loved her—and that did surprise me at first. He used to drive the Hall carriage, until he bought his yacht—for he loved the sea more than anything else. Miss Emily had old Robert, who had been there ever so many years; but John was so exact, and used to keep the place in order. He was stables, Mr. Alfred had him drive his carriage. So he knew Miss Louie as well as I, ever since he used to carry her in his arms, and hold her on the backs of the horses—as she used to love to ride. Then, a little later, Miss Louie was with John who taught her to ride, and went with her—and I think they set one another's beauty off, even if it is foolish to say so. But when I found he loved her I was in trouble.

It was this way. It was late in the Fall, and Joe was not back yet, and the family at the Hall were to leave that week for town. Miss Emily and all. I remember the day had been sultry for September, and the last day of the month, and the sun had left the sky lurid. The sea was a fine sight: the red sky had given it a fiery look, and the green lights of the waves broke in bits of opal like foam. The sun showed a few remarks and small clouds, that came against the night breeze, and the beach had its crowds of finely dressed people from the hotels to make the picture prettier. I knew Charlie was with his father that cruise, and I sat alone with a bit of sewing on the doorstep. The very smell of the sultry air comes back to me, the line of gray sea where the sky met it, the sound of the waves, and the smell of a few late flowers in the little garden. The house fronted toward the sea, a cozy little place, very well snug in Winter; I tried to make it home-like for Joe.

I know I sat that night quite late, till it grew too dusky to sew, and I let my work fall down on my lap. I think I was a little sad, wondering if I ever should be anything more than a house-keeper for Joe; ever see into the world that those crowds of beautiful ladies lived in; ever be a whit beyond the old sad life I led, never thinking how much it was, or how good a thing Charlie and Joe would be all alone, you know. I felt a little bitterly, as I leaned my head down on my hand palm—how soft, and dainty, and jewsled those hands yonder! How finely clad those delicate limbs—and girls no younger than I were walking there with brave, strong lovers in the twilight and the fresh sea air. Would I ever have a lover; Not Jem Jenkins or Tom Coles surely, but a lover who was full of the knowledge of books, and men, one who knew all I yearned to know; one who could teach me what I craved; one who was strong and brave, and whom I could trust—trust as much as I could have done just then!

My foolish head went down with a silly little nod into my lap, and I thought how vain and useless my hopes were.

Just then the gate-latch clicked, and in the gloom I saw John's tall, graceful figure, with that quick, brisk step—like his words, sound and firm—coming up the gravel walk. Whatever else I had been dreaming of was forgotten. He came to me in a mad, wild whirl of sense:—"Jenny, you love this man, and *he* is the lover you dream of."

I laid my hot cheeks down into my palms. At any other time he would have noticed it; but he came steadily to me, and threw himself down beside the steps, on the grass. He often lay that way, with his head upon his arm, in the door, if there were no parties to go out in the boats, or when he came for a walk in the eve or to cheer me. But to-night, as I raised my face, glad it was dark, and fearful lest he could hear my heart beat, I caught a low sob, short and, from the sound, fearless; but a man's sob. It struck me like a thrill. I felt a pitiful weak fear creeping along the veins and stealing above my heart. But it was my way to face things, and I sat quite still, till I was sure I could speak in a broken surge-like whisper.

"Is it of Joe and Charlie, John? Then my voice broke quite down, and I sat shivering in the damp wind, with the hair wet and clinging about my forehead. John sprang up from the grass and stood before me.

"What's blind! what is it and I have been!" But his hand on mine was cold and shaky, and his voice hoarse. "No, Jenny, not that. Joe and the boy are quite well, and on their way back, for Christie Burns's vessel is in but—but—" his voice sinking over the word, "it was a bundle of mine—a trouble that seems like to kill me. I've hidden it. I've tried to bury it. I even tried to be careless of it. It won't do. It is *there*. And now, when the last hope is going forever—I am child a boy, Jenny—the light of you. I thought you might help me; and, Jenny, for God's sake, tell me what to do."

There was a deep feeling in his voice, and John never spoke *that* name lightly. I went up to him where he had crouched in the grass again, and gathered the damp hair from his brow.

"Tell me, John," I said. But the despair that I had in my voice! He lifted his face and covered it with his arm, as he had lain hundreds of times silent in the sun, when I and Joe were children. "Jenny, I love Louie Irvingham; I, a poor, unlearned boor of a fellow, and she a fine lady, with a fortune more than I could count. Ever since the time I used to take her little boats, and trot her on Rover's back, I've loved her—and now all the more since she is to go abroad next month for years, and maybe marry a fine lord or nobleman; and I—why, Jenny, I would die for her. But I must live, live and work, for and work, and be poor, and know nothing of books and fine society and such life as *hers*."

With the sudden knowledge that a woman has when a loveless, shadowed life such as mine comes to her, I said: "John, can't you bear a sorrow that will grow lighter, patiently, quietly, with a will of iron; in a life where the sunlight has become hated to live trying to forget the pain, and feeling cheerful because God wills and one knows the pain is best?"

When I spoke God knows how bitter the pain I held, how far from being calm or reconciled I felt.

"But how can I forget her, or how can I live patiently with nothing to live for?"

I felt a pain so keen at his words that I could hardly reply.

"You must forget her. What can you ever hope to do to win her proud father's consent, even if you win her? Besides, you will have other things to do. You must not break their hearts. The world needs strong arms. Think! With your strong will, your hatred of hiding bound, could you enter that life of fashion and worldliness and not feel out of place?"

John hung his head like a baffled boy. "I know it well enough. She does not love me or dream of my love for her. I could not be sneered at by her father."

The time had come to speak when his pride was touched.

"John, live a noble life. One can wear out these troubles. No, do not go away. Stay here, and make your heart forget its folly, if you can. Be a man, and do a man's work, leaving the rest to God."

"I will, Jenny. God bless you!" and John had gone.

The next day she came to take leave of me. It rained dismally.

"Just think, Jenny, you little, brown wren, of me. I am actually going abroad. Five years; it is a long time! But you look dismally sober—as sober as a girl over her first love letter. Maybe it is a lover, Jenny!" she said, playfully. "Oh, well, I like John; he is worthy of you. I will bring you a wedding present from Paris."

She looked daintier than ever in the plain little room; and her hair clinging about her soft, white brow, fitted for the luxury and beauty she lived in.

Louie Irvingham, did you know that afternoon how the rain, sobbing outside my little window, wailed as my own heart helplessly did, as I thought how little the love that you had would have been to you, how to me—life itself?

When the soft white face, in its pretty framework of curls, faded away in the rain, I looked at the hard lines coming on my face, and the pain in my set mouth, and for an instant the great difference between us was so keen that—God forgive, the tears kept time to the rain without!

There is little in the six years after to tell. John bought a vessel, and was gone long whiles. I knew he was patient; he never spoke her name. All the good that life seemed to bring him to do, I know he did. Sometimes I longed to speak of his sorrows, but I never did.

Once Miss Louie had played me a sad, plaintive melody of some great German composer. My life seemed like the saddest part of that little tune. I remember the harmony rose and fell till the whole ended in a triumphal burst of sound; and I used to wonder if my life would come to the joy-notes, too.

One day John came to me with a paper, a sort of a smile on his quiet lips. His finger pointed me to a paragraph as he unfolded the paper, and I read—Louie's marriage.

"A rich, great man," John said, simply. "Jenny, I have overcome it. It was a boyish thing. I know how vain, how foolish it would have been."

This was all he said, folding up the paper and going away.

The six years were nearly over. Charlie and Joe had been on a longer cruise than usual, and were coming back. It seemed as though my life-work was pretty clear, I thought, as I spread the linen to the air, and kindled a fire in the little front room. The damp chill of evening came against my cheek as I stood at the gate, and on the beach a knot of men had gathered. Perhaps the vessel was already in—and here came John to tell me. He kept his face from me as he came nearer; and a look, such as I had seen on it when his mother died, was there. I knew something.

He led me in, away from the salt smell and the chill air, to the little parlor, lighted and warmed.

"Jenny I am in trouble. I have come to you—"

I looked quickly up at him.

"I've lost some dear friends, and need you to tell me that God knows best, and that it is right."

I thought of Louie and the Irvinghams; but a second look in John's face made me say:

"Joe and Charlie? They will never come home!"

John's face had fallen between his hands.

One thing more, and this little story is ended. It's no more than what you who read have known.

When eight months later, John's vessel came back I heard calmly the little he could tell me of the wreck. He lay on the grassplot (for it was Summer again), his hand across his face.

"Jenny, it's a long time since I told you my real trouble. I've another, deeper, now; I think a woman can bear heart pain better than a man. I loved Louie Irvingham foolishly, blindly, and grew to know that I loved her. To-day, that day, I have not forgotten some words you said. Jenny, tell me, whatever the boy's heart was, can you trust the man's?"

I did trust it, and the victory notes came at last into my life.

He was to sail early on the morrow, and in three months I was to be his wife. What was the parting then? I did not think about the pain, in the fullness of my joy.

I've an idea you may call this the ending of this story sad, but it isn't. Through the night that John's vessel set in for the harbor there was a storm, and she went on the rocks, and—well, in the morning they drew him out of the surf and brought him up to Nancy Bell and me. I think if I had the old rebellious cry against God in my heart that I had the night before, when I heard the signal guns stop, I would have lost it from my first look at John's face, where a smile of peace and trust was. You've heard I found a home; that I had been three years before in a bit of paper, with these words written:

"Jenny, darling, the ship is going down. Don't make hard for me to stay in heaven without you by feeling that this was so bitter for after all the world may be dark, but the end will be enough for us both. You will know how much I would have said and could not. Bessy sends her love. Tell Louie I am glad for her Nancy. God will comfort you, my brave darling.

"JOHN ——."

And God did comfort me.

How Elephants were Shipped to Abyssinia.

Part of the outfit of the English expedition to Abyssinia was a herd of twenty elephants—unwieldy animals at best, but uncommonly troublesome as passengers on shipboard. A Bombay paper describes the shipment:

"The hoisting tackle required was of immense strength, and the hoist was formed in this way: The main yard was supported from the lower mast, and by rising to the cross-trees of top-mast-head there was a strengthening tackle, and from the lower mast-head there were preventers. From the foremast head there was a tackle for hauling the hoist forward. The elephants were then driven right under where they were pickoted, one by one, and on reaching the Compta's side were fettered and placed in slings, consisting of the stoutest canvas secured by thick lashings. The height to which the animals had to be hoisted was 30 feet, and when lowered away into the hold was some twenty or thirty feet, and a small regiment of lascars was employed in lifting tackle. The operation was really an extraordinary sight, well worth witnessing, and it was curious to observe the different moods in which the unwieldy beasts submitted to it. Some, when they found themselves suspended in mid air, shed tears copiously, and were affected in a remarkable manner; others became vicious, and roared and plunged about most alarmingly.

"In the days of Queen Elizabeth some rather remarkable ideas were entertained in England as to the anatomy of the elephant, and Shakspeare says: 'The elephant hath joints, but none for courting; his legs are for necessity, not for flexure.' Now nobody in these days, we suppose, holds such an opinion; but if he does, he would have had a convincing proof of his error had he witnessed the surprising agility of some of the elephants hoisted into the hold of the Compta; for they bent their legs as simply and pawed, and kicked with tremendous violence, and one or two managed to throw their legs behind them so as to get a footing on the combing of the hatchway. Fortunately, no difficulty was encountered in getting them on their feet, and they were safely got down below.—By about 5 o'clock P. M. nineteen had been embarked, but the twentieth one was so vicious and 'musty' that it was determined not to take him; for he would not touch food, and it seemed very much inclined to do as he pleased. It was said that in an unamiable mood on Friday he killed one of his unfortunate attendants."

Whist,

If I had children to educate, I would, at ten or twelve years of age, have a professor, or professoress, of whist for them, and cause them to well grounded in that great and useful game. You cannot learn it well when you are old, any more than you can learn dancing or billiards. In our house at home we youngsters did not play whist because we were dear obedient children, and the elders said playing cards was "a waste of time." A waste of time! *Allons!* What do elderly home-keeping people do of a night after dinner? Darby gets his newspaper; my dear Joan her Missionary Magazine or her volume of Cummings's Sermons—and don't, you know what ensues? Over the arm of Darby's arm-chair the paper flutters to the ground unheeded, and he performs the trumpet obligato on the deep bass in full mouth. My dear old Joan's head nods over her sermon (awakening though the doctrine may be). Ding, ding, ding! can that be ten o'clock? It is time to send the servants to bed, my dear—and to bed my master and mistress go too, and they have not wasted their time playing at cards. Oh, no! I belong to a club where there is whist of a night; and not a little amusing is it to hear Brown speak of Thompson's plays, and *vice versa*. And there is Chapman—Greatorex let us call him—who is the acknowledged captain and primus of all the whist-players. We all secretly admire him. I, for my part, watch him in private life, hearken to what he says, note what he orders for dinner, and have the feeling of awe for him that I used to have as a boy for the cock of the school. Not play at whist? *Quelle triste vieillesse vous vous preparez!* were the words of the great and good Bishop of Autun. I can't. It is too late now. Too late! too late! And a humiliating confession! That Joy might have been clutched, but the life-stream has swept us by it—the swift life-stream rushing to the nearing sea. Too late! too late! Twentystone my boy! When you read in the papers "Value a deux temps," and not know what those cases taught to adults by "Miss Lightfoots," don't you feel that you would like to go in and learn? Ah! it is too late! You have passed the *chasses*, like Chamber Twentystone, and the young people are dancing without you.—*Thackeray.*

The Benninghoff Robbery.

There is yet no clue to the perpetrators of the Benninghoff robbery, and probably the rascals will escape, as the "swag" is large enough to divide with any detectives who may be keen enough to find them out. So large an amount of available money has not been secured in one operation for many years, and there is little prospect the Benninghoffs will ever handle any of it again. The Titusville *Herald* of Thursday says: Two suits were commenced yesterday against Joseph, the son of John, by Messrs. Harley and Cady, each laying damages at $50,000, for defamation of character, by the issue of warrants for arrest, and search. The suits were brought in the Court of Common Pleas, Venango county.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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NEW YORK AND PARIS FASHIONS, FOR FEBRUARY.

How we Live---What it Costs---Who is Hurt---Balls and Parties---Gift Weddings---Evening Dresses---Black Suits ---Cheap Goods---A Fashionable Outfit.

From Our Fashion Correspondent.
NEW YORK, January, 1868.

INDICATIONS FOR SPRING.

The New Year has not been inaugurated with the usual festivities. Everybody feels poor, everybody feels blue, and the simple reason is that everybody has been living at high water mark, and now that the tide is receding, it leaves them pretty nearly naked and on the bare ground.

Within the past ten years the cost in every department of living and labor in New York city has more than doubled. Rents especially have swollen to enormous proportions; less than five thousand dollars per year will not now supply even a small family with the comforts, much less the luxuries of life, and of this nearly half and not unfrequently more than half is paid for rent.

A neat house, not large or fine, in any good street, will bring three thousand dollars per year, unfurnished, and there are blocks and streets of houses, in quiet, unfashionable neighborhoods, formerly let to two families for seven and eight hundred dollars per annum, which now bring eighteen hundred, and families must pay the small income of one thousand, or at least eight hundred dollars per annum for the privilege of occupying the "first floor front" or the "second story back" of these highly respectable and desirable residences. (See advertisement.)

Now a part of a house in a back street does not fulfil a palatial idea of luxury, and it is somewhat discouraging for a man who makes his hundred dollars per week or five thousand dollars a year to feel that one-fifth of an income which he would once have considered magnificent is expended in the occupation of premises at which his country cousins turn up their noses, and to which he is ashamed to invite his friends.

But there are plenty of men, who have been accustomed to comfortable living, who do not make five thousand dollars per annum, who do make the half or perhaps the third of that sum, but who must still live, and, in accordance with their antecedents, live respectably. How can they do it, that is the question? And how supply the double and treble amounts now required for clothing, for sewing, for domestic service, for labor and necessities of all kinds?

One way in which it is done is by breaking up of households. Almost everybody, now, either boards or takes boarders. "Not regular boarders, you know, my dear, but just a few agreeable persons for companionship," and the more they are willing to pay the more agreeable they are found.

There are people in New York who pay two hundred dollars per week for board—nearly double what they would pay at a first-class hotel. For this sum they have a suite of rooms, a private table, catered for by the hotel, and accommodations for two servants, in all four persons. The wages to servants, the "extras," the carriage hire, the tailors, milliners, and whitemerchant's bills undoubtedly amount to a hundred dollars more, bringing the expenditure up to twenty thousand dollars per year. A heavy sum for just keeping body and the modern remnant of a soul together for one year.

But it is not of people who have a great deal of money to spend that we have anything to say. It is of the great majority, the living stream, that pours itself out night and morning up Broadway, through the avenues, into the Bowery cars and stages, and finally somewhere into the suburban districts, into the first floor fronts or second story backs as before mentioned, or resolves itself into the great mass of boarding and boarders.

Less than twenty years ago a young man could get very decent board for himself and wife for five dollars per week. Less than ten years ago he could get the same kind of board for about ten dollars a week; now it would cost him twenty-five or thirty. If a man or his wife are averse to climbing three or four flights of stairs, or traveling to unknown or benighted regions east or west, he must pay thirty to forty dollars per week, and extra for whatever his wife wants for lunch, except tea.

Boarding-house keepers are suffering, however; believing in the permanency of human affairs, even Congressional paper money they have not yet learned to depreciate, and rents rents which require the high prices to sustain them, and find that they cannot meet their obligations. There is a general giving up of costly houses and retiring to the "first floor front" or the "second story back" of these highly respectable and desirable residences.

DALLS AND PARTIES.

After New Years there are usually a large number of entertainments given; the malthiously disposed say, in order to get rid of the New Year's cake. Not a bad idea, even if it is true, but more probably because visitors are in town for the holidays, and hospitalities are necessarily dispensed in return for those that have been received.

Very few of the entertainments given this year, however, come under the usual head of "magnificent." Lady fingers and sponge cake predominate in the way of refreshments, and the few hot house grapes and peaches are so evidently intended for show, rather than for use, that nobody pretends to touch them. The ladies dresses show no diminution in length, style or cost, but it is less a proof of present extravagance than of the accommodating nature of the present fashions, which are capable of "making over" to any extent and with wonderful results.

There are a few large balls for which some beautiful toilettes are preparing, but these will be described under another head.

GIFT WEDDINGS.

The more numerous and altogether more popular parties of the season are the gift weddings; the "wooden" weddings, "tin" weddings, the "crytsal" weddings, the "china" weddings, the "silver" weddings, and the "golden" weddings.

The first as everybody knows is given at the end of five years, the second at ten, the third at fifteen, the fourth at twenty, the fifth at twenty-five and the sixth at fifty. There is another, the "diamond" wedding, which is placed at the end of seventy-five years, but as few married people live together for that length of time, it is hardly worth mentioning.

These donation weddings are generally successful. Everybody is invited on such occasions, no one is forgotten, and almost every one comes. Then in anticipation of a *quid pro quo* in wooden pails, tin dippers, or glass dishes, the host and hostess can afford a handsome supper, and for this and the opportunity of seeing friends, and having a good time, people are willing to invest their five dollars more or less.

The invitations are always sent out on cards corresponding to the nature of the occasion cards for a wooden wedding are *grained*, for a tin wedding they are engraved on foil, for a crystal wedding on transparent tinglass, for a China wedding on enamelled cards with a tinted border, and for silver and gold weddings on cards with silver or gilt borders.

The number of these and the style confer a sort of social distinction, and are sources of never-ending small talk. So it is no wonder that people are very willing to receive them.

EVENING DRESSES.

Among the elegant new dresses prepared for balls and parties recently was one composed of puffings of white net trimmed with white satin and gold lace. The puffings were arranged lengthwise upon a skirt, narrow at the top, but spreading out fan-shaped at the bottom. They were divided by lines of gold lace, which terminated in rosettes of satin and lace, placed a short distance above the horizontal lace and wide puffing, which surrounded the bottom of the skirt. An apron of white satin, cut out in points and trimmed with rosettes of satin and lace, formed the front of the skirt, and Grecian folds of satin and net trimmed with gold lace, formed the low body. The sleeves were short and puffed.

A very full dress of blue satin was cut very low and square, the stomacher and apron composed of white satin, but the lower part of the skirt in front of blue. The train at the back was trimmed with deep flounces *en point appliqué*, the edge of the skirt from the sides was cut out in scollops and bound with white satin. The neck was filled in with a chemisette of white lace, composed of puffing and *point appliqué* insertion. The under or coat sleeves were of white lace to the outside sleeves were *a la juive*, lined with white satin and trimmed flat, as were also the neck and front of the skirt, with *point appliqué* lace.

A charming dress of white tulle puffed lengthwise and dotted with small rows of white satin ribbon, was relieved from its bridelike appearance by an over dress of black lace, made gored and with the bodice all in one piece, *a la Princesse*. These lace over-dresses are among the richest and most costly, they are shaped very gracefully to the form, are finished in scollops upon the upper and lower edge, and add immense style to a low *Princesse* evening dress, which, by the way, may be made in the simplest manner if a lace overdress is to be worn with it.

Dresses of crape and tulle trimmed with leaves and garlands are altogether the most stylish for evening wear, but they are less worn than formerly, because considered too expensive. Crape and tulle, though, can be economically used instead of tulle, but the effect is much less soft and delicate and not near so becoming.

Black tulle *bouillonnee* makes a most elegant evening dress, divided by loaves or a simple thick cord of black satin. To produce the gored shape, the *bouillonnee* must be made lengthwise upon a stiff foundation and widened out towards the bottom of the skirt.

There are always rich silk dresses and embroidered dresses, but they are all alike and present no features for special description.

The new chemisettes, it must be remarked, are all in the *Marie Antoinette* style. The dress is cut very low and the chemisette is either composed of folds of tulle or of impure lace made very open like a handkerchief tucked into the boddice in the style which belonged to the reign of the unfortunate Queen. The resemblance is all the more perfect to the costumes of the period when the fashionable locket is suspended from a black velvet ribbon round the neck.

A "FASHIONABLE OUTFIT."

As a faithful chronicler of fashion, we protest against the use which certain journals have made of a list for a *trousseau*, given in a preceding letter, copying it, as they have done, and crediting it to us, as a "fashionable" outfit. The idea is absurd. A fashionable bridal outfit indeed, for three hundred and eighty-five dollars! Why it would hardly more than pay for a fan and bouquet. The list simply included items of cheap under-clothing, and was intended to serve as a comparison between the prices here for ladies' ready-made garments and those of London and Paris.

To set the matter right, we shall shortly give a list of a bridal outfit complete, at the usual "fashionable" cost. The fan alone, of point lace, with inlaid pearl handle, will cost one hundred and twenty-five dollars; the parasol, with cover of lace, one hundred and fifty. So if any gentleman has contemplated getting married from a fashionable point of view under the impression that three hundred and eighty-five dollars would furnish an outfit, he had better wait for the figures to come before committing himself.

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These donation weddings are generally successful. Everybody is invited on such occasions, no one is forgotten, and almost every one comes. Then in anticipation of a *quid pro quo* in wooden pails, tin dippers, or glass dishes, the host and hostess can afford a handsome supper, and for this and the opportunity of seeing friends, and having a good time, people are willing to invest their five dollars more or less.

The invitations are always sent out on cards corresponding to the nature of the occasion cards for a wooden wedding are *grained*, for a tin wedding they are engraved on foil, for a crystal wedding on transparent tinglass, for a China wedding on enamelled cards with a tinted border, and for silver and gold weddings on cards with silver or gilt borders.

The number of these and the style confer a sort of social distinction, and are sources of never-ending small talk. So it is no wonder that people are very willing to receive them.

EVENING DRESSES.

Among the elegant new dresses prepared for balls and parties recently was one composed of puffings of white net trimmed with white satin and gold lace. The puffings were arranged lengthwise upon a skirt, narrow at the top, but spreading out fan-shaped at the bottom. They were divided by lines of gold lace, which terminated in rosettes of satin and lace, placed a short distance above the horizontal lace and wide puffing, which surrounded the bottom of the skirt. An apron of white satin, cut out in points and trimmed with rosettes of satin and lace, formed the front of the skirt, and Grecian folds of satin and net trimmed with gold lace, formed the low body. The sleeves were short and puffed.

A very full dress of blue satin was cut very low and square, the stomacher and apron composed of white satin, but the lower part of the skirt in front of blue. The train at the back was trimmed with deep flounces *en point appliqué*, the edge of the skirt from the sides was cut out in scollops and bound with white satin. The neck was filled in with a chemisette of white lace, composed of puffing and *point appliqué* insertion. The under or coat sleeves were of white lace to the outside sleeves were *a la juive*, lined with white satin and trimmed flat, as were also the neck and front of the skirt, with *point appliqué* lace.

A charming dress of white tulle puffed lengthwise and dotted with small rows of white satin ribbon, was relieved from its bridelike appearance by an over dress of black lace, made gored and with the boddice all in one piece, *a la Princesse*. These lace over-dresses are among the richest and most costly, they are shaped very gracefully to the form, are finished in scollops upon the upper and lower edge, and add immense style to a low *Princesse* evening dress, which, by the way, may be made in the simplest manner if a lace overdress is to be worn with it.

Dresses of crape and tulle trimmed with leaves and garlands are altogether the most stylish for evening wear, but they are less worn than formerly, because considered too expensive. Crape and tulle, though, can be economically used instead of tulle, but the effect is much less soft and delicate and not near so becoming.

Black tulle *bouillonnee* makes a most elegant evening dress, divided by loaves or a simple thick cord of black satin. To produce the gored shape, the *bouillonnees* must be made lengthwise upon a stiff foundation and widened out towards the bottom of the skirt.

There are always rich silk dresses and embroidered dresses, but they are all alike and present no features for special description.

The new chemisettes, it must be remarked, are all in the *Marie Antoinette* style. The dress is cut very low and the chemisette is either composed of folds of tulle or of impure lace made very open like a handkerchief tucked into the boddice in the style which belonged to the reign of the unfortunate Queen. The resemblance is all the more perfect to the costumes of the period when the fashionable locket is suspended from a black velvet ribbon round the neck.

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Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1868.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN PRESIDENT JOHNSON AND GENERAL GRANT.

These letters, published in our paper of this week, will no doubt be read by all who take an interest in the politics of the present. They throw no uncertain light on the characters of both the prominent parties involved in the controversy to which they relate. Or rather it would be more correct to say that both the distinguished letter-writers appear in their well-known characters, and that the charge of inconsistency can be justly alleged against neither, on the ground of anything which this correspondence presents. The great question of policy, and even the nice question of punctilio involved in the removal and reinstatement of Mr. STANTON, which may be described as the original and remote occasions of this correspondence, are for the moment, cast into the shade by the more personal and exciting question of veracity, which is its immediate subject. One of the old philosophers having been asked what a man gains by telling a falsehood, replied, "not to be believed when he tells the truth." Undoubtedly, in a controversy of this kind, established character for truthfulness of speech and conduct is a most weighty consideration, and gives one an almost overpowering advantage against an antagonist not so armed.

Few persons will finish the perusal of these letters without recollecting the statement—now known to be false—issued from the White House and designed to injure Commissioner ROLLINS, and also the impression produced throughout the country by the publication of General SHERIDAN'S dispatches. Nor will some other generally known facts fail to be called to mind to the suggestion of a sort of anteceeent presumption at least against the infallibility of the President. Few are prepared to deny that Mr. JOHNSON'S errors of statement have sometimes been unfortunate, not to say suspicious. Then in a contest with GRANT he is placed at a great disadvantage.

In regard to the matter in debate—why should General GRANT have lied, or acted falsely in any manner? Motive to prompt falsehood in him was entirely wanting, while in his opponent motives the most powerful and cogent existed to urge the injury of the man who enjoys the confidence of the whole country. To convict him of prevarication—of speaking or acting an untruth—was an obvious expedient "to destroy his character before the country." Were other motives wanting, to punish the man who had refused to lend his name and influence to the President's illegal proceedings will be regarded as sufficient by all who know the capabilities of ambitious human nature.

To every one who has watched General GRANT'S career in Washington, and who has read his words *in this correspondence* and elsewhere, it is manifest that he took charge of the War Department on the removal of STANTON to prevent the occupation of the post by a man who might prevent, or obstruct, or retard the work of reconstruction. It is equally manifest that he was always resolved to recognize the authority of Congress, and to stand by the law. This he tells the President in express terms in his letter of February 3d. On the other hand it is not less manifest that the President has all along maintained a directly opposite position. His acts and words have been hostile to Congress and highly revolutionary in tendency and effect.

These words hardly state his attitude with sufficient force. He proceeded from the beginning with the expressed purpose of setting Congress at defiance, and of gratifying his own despotic will. GRANT'S position was just as firm and as well defined on the other side. He was thus called to act the part of a patriotic statesman under very remarkable circumstances. He never for a moment yielded his countenance to the President's unconstitutional and illegal proceedings. He not only protested against them, but positively refused to have any agency in their consummation. At the same time he appears to have uniformly treated the head of the Government with the courtesy and, may be, deference of manner due from the soldier to his Commander-in-Chief. This politeness in the form of abstinence from unnecessarily harsh contradiction was sometimes misunderstood, as the General intimates in the close of his letter of January 25th. We are, however, not prepared to concede too much to this possible source of some of the President's allegations, and doubt not that General GRANT had reason and fact on his side when he wrote:

> "The course you would have it understood I agreed to pursue was in violation of law, and that ordered by you, while the course I did pursue, and which I never doubted you fully understood, was in accordance with law, and not in disobedience to any orders of my superior. And now, Mr. President, when my honor as a soldier and integrity as a man has been so violently assailed, pardon me for saying that I can but regard this whole matter, from beginning to end, as an attempt to involve me in the resistance of the law, for which you hesitated to assume the responsibility, in order thus to destroy my character before the country. I am, in a measure, confirmed in this conclusion by your recent orders directing me to disobey orders from the Secretary of War, my superior, and your subordinate; without having countermanded his authority. I am to disobey."

The General already stands so high in the judgment and in the regards of his countrymen, that it is difficult for him to make an ascent. But we feel quite sure that the effect of this correspondence will be to enhance the common admiration and confidence. Had we before been ignorant of the fact, we now know that if he is taciturn, it is not for the want of sound and valuable thoughts and fit words to express them, and that he is as true to himself as to the interests of his country.

THAT CHARGE OF DRUNKENNESS.

The Cincinnati *Commercial* copies all that has been printed, by way of insinuation, that GRANT was lately intoxicated, and then proceeds to dispose of the matter as follows:

> "Observe, however, that not one of these demonstrative persons knows any thing of his, her, or its own knowledge. They have heard rumors, and forthwith the long roll is beaten. The whole of these rumors grew out of a single allegation. This, for a wonder, is tolerably explicit. It is that General GRANT was seen drunk on the street in Washington, on Sunday, the 5th of January, about the time the people were returning from church. Now, one can hardly say, &c. We have not yet the name of any one who saw, or says he saw, or says he thought he saw General GRANT on the occasion referred to. Happening the other day to meet a gentleman who was with General GRANT on the evening of Sunday, the 5th of January, and who is very well acquainted with him, we asked what General GRANT'S condition was. We were promptly answered that he was perfectly sober, and that there was nothing in his appearance to lead to unkind remarks of hard drinking. This testimony is as responsible as it is explicit. We presume it can be backed by all the confirmation needed."

What next? It was foretold that, as the campaign progressed, General GRANT would become the object of the grossest slanders; and it may be well to caution the public against giving credence in the slightest particular to the coinages of this mint. We should not be surprised if, before long, the General should be charged with having deserted to the rebels at some time during the war.

WE have repeatedly referred to the vast field open for profitable investment in manufacturing enterprises, and our citizens have been always ready to avail themselves of such opportunities, as we see by the large numbers of new industrial works built or started, and of old ones enlarged or refitted. Entirely the terrible depression in trade has affected manufacturers heavily, but they have manfully borne up under it, and surprised everybody by their pluck and power of endurance. A better time is now dawning for them and for us all, and as the first thing worthy of the attention of those having capital seeking investment, we point to productive industry. We do not doubt that there will be a fair spring trade, because people cannot do without a certain supply of goods, and they have now been stinting themselves so long that the country must in many sections bare of wearing apparel.—*Philadelphia North American and Gazette.*

Our contemporary takes the view which we understand is adopted generally by our manufacturers and business men. It is based, we understand, on signs which are not likely to fail. Nevertheless, we believe "great expectations" do not exist, for they are not warranted either in the present or prospective state of our affairs. It will be a good deal to keep our wheels moving and labor employed, even at a reduced rate—and it will have to be generally at a reduction if at all. The ordeal through which we have passed—if passed we have—has taught this lesson, and we trust we shall bear no more of antagonisms based on a misconception of the truth, nor of attempts to reverse the laws of supply and demand. We rejoice to perceive that, as a general thing, the feeling of hopefulness, attended by an actual revival,—perhaps we ought to say, prospective revival,—in many departments of business, prevails generally. With sound action by Congress, in lifting the load of taxation, the skies will once more be bright.

THE passage in the House of the Free Railroad bill evinces promptness, to say the least,—presuming that the bill is not crippled. We cannot do less than say it is a gratifying manifestation of a disposition to legislate for the people; and that it vindicates Speaker DAVIS and those who supported him from the aspersions of their opponents. It is stated that "the battle will be fought out in the Senate," from which we infer that the bill is good enough to provoke the determined hostility of the old opposition. This is a good sign; and it ought to nerve the Republicans in the Senate—who are solemnly pledged for the law—to make short work of it. The Republican members of the House have, we believe, observed the pledges given to the people, and done their duty. We hope to record that the Republican Senators did theirs also.

THE Harrisburg *Telegraph* is "grieved" because the press does not beslaver the Western members for passing the Connellsville repeal bill, and intimates that injustice has in some way been done to them. Our Harrisburg contemporary, we have observed, is nothing if not sycophantic. It has the same words and phrases for every one and on all occasions; and without feeling at all disposed to question its "style," we must conclude that with most persons nothing could be more offensive. To immoderately praise Representatives for performing their duty, is another way, sometimes, to convey the impression that possibly they might have failed. So far as we know, the press of the State, particularly in the West, know how to appreciate and commend faithfulness in office, and will applaud without any prompting from the *Telegraph*.

Imagination—Benevolence—Medicine.

Though the soul is a unit, it is still convenient to speak of its different faculties as if they were distinct, and to refer one action to the memory, another to the reason, and still another to the imagination. Does a man act absurdly? We say he is deficient in the faculty of reason; and the neglect of an honest man to fulfill his engagements, or to do what he promised, is referred to the want or the lapse of memory. Not only is this division of the mind into faculties very convenient, but it is exceedingly useful. The practice comes in aid of charity. How consolatory and soothing to our philanthropy to be enabled to speak of our friend as endowed with miraculous memory, though his ordinary actions almost show him to be a fool; or, to characterize an individual whom we regard with friendly eyes as a person capable of cogent argumentation though his imagination is known to be exceedingly weak. Fontenelle, excessively fond of asparagus dressed with oil, when one day waiting for a friend to dine with him who preferred his asparagus without oil, was suddenly informed that his expected guest had just died of apoplexy. The philosopher, then nearly a hundred years old, tottered to the head of the stairway which led to his kitchen, and cried down, in his feeble voice, "All with oil! all with oil!" Having thus prevented the waste of the precious vegetable by directing the whole supply to be dressed to his own taste; he inquired at leisure into the circumstances of his friend's demise. This Fontenelle was one of the most brilliant Frenchmen of his time, and was Secretary of the Academy for more than fifty years. A great lady said of him that he had as good a heart as it was possible to make out of brains. Some would be less charitable, and say that he had no heart. But this would be a great mistake. He was generally cynical in his talk; he sometimes indulged in a sneer when it was out of place; but he frequently did kind things for those who had no claim upon him, and his intimate friends reckoned with confidence upon his aid in the time of need. His imagination was weak; he did not realize or form a distinct image of distress until it was placed before his eyes. In this particular there are many like him. Some persons are susceptible of being powerfully affected by a picture of merely fictitious distress, whether in words or on canvass. Their emotions are for the moment overwhelming and uncontrollable. Were the scene portrayed suddenly turned into reality, the impulse to relieve it would at once disregard the dictates of prudence. Whoever takes a walk through a great city frequently meets with persons in whose dress, or countenance, or in both there are indications, sometimes slight, which to a strong imagination tell a story of trial and sorrow well adapted to call forth sympathy and help. The moving scene is to him just as present and as provocative of sympathy and as clamorous for relief, as it would be if he followed the sufferer to the garret, or the cellar, where wife and children shiver with cold and cry because they have no bread. The person thus able to infer the whole scene of suffering from a small circumstance, or slight indication, may be too fond of himself, or of his money to remedy the evil he sees; while the man of dull imagination, or sluggish faculties, may be full of true benevolence and fail to give, merely because he is unable to fill out a picture from small intimations. It is not only the mind or soul or will that is swayed and influenced by the imagination. The body also may be injured or cured by the same agency. Of this truth we not long since read a striking illustration. A gentleman of wealth and learning in Vienna, through the nervous excitement produced by continuous study, brought upon himself an obstinate attack of sleeplessness. He tried every means of cure he could think of himself, and then applied to the most noted physicians of the great capital; but in vain. No remedy known to the medical art was neglected. Change of climate was prescribed; and he tried it, but the change did him no good. The doctors ordered him hither and thither; first a moist climate and then a dry climate was prescribed; he went to Italy, to England, to Switzerland, to Sweden, to Russia, and having derived no benefit from any one of these countries, he returned to Vienna.

Homœopathy happened just then to be exciting a good deal of attention in that city, and as our patient had tried all forms of allopathy, he determined to see what the new system could do for him. He called in the most famous homœopathist of Vienna. The doctor comes—feels his pulse—examines his tongue, and inquires about his appetite. The doctor's questions, manners and discourse combine to inspire the utmost confidence in the man who could not sleep. At length he said: "I am truly rejoiced that I have now in hand a case which I not only perfectly understand, but which I am unconditionally sure of being able to cure." He then prescribed for the patient three very little pills which he was to take before going to bed. A small bone spoon properly wet was the instrument for conveying them to the mouth. The learned man swallows the pills, and almost immediately falls asleep and sleeps soundly all night.

In the morning completely refreshed, evidently cured, he calls his servant and at once sends him off with a considerable sum of money as an expression of thanks to his physician. One can fancy the happiness of the scholar; his books and the world smile upon him, and he rejoice once more in life and its toils. He looks forward with confidence to the coming night, certain that he has a medicine which will insure him the needful repose. When bedtime again returned, taking up the little spoon he was proceeding to wet it, according to direction, when he discovered the three little pills still adhering to it.

Of course this story, which we owe to Auerbach's Almanac, neither proves nor disproves any system of medicine, but merely illustrates the power of imagination.

THE number of Union soldiers buried in the national cemeteries is stated at 328,000. If we add to these the men whose bodies were brought home, and those who came home to die, or who died at home in consequence of wounds received or illness contracted while in the military service, those who were buried where they fell and have not since been disturbed, and the seamen who fell in action or died of wounds or from sickness, we shall see that the number must be about half a million. Putting the number of dead rebels at 300,000, we have a total of 800,000 men dead as a consequence of the rebellion.

It is reported on pretty good authority that General John M. Palmer has not decided to be a candidate before the Republican State Convention for nomination for the office of Governor of Illinois.

GRANT----JOHNSON.

THE SECRETARYSHIP OF WAR

Interesting Correspondence.

Gen. Grant Ordered Not to Obey Stanton.

He Demands Written Instructions.

Misrepresentations of the Press.

Conversation at the Cabinet Meeting.

Some Questions of Veracity.

WASHINGTON, February 4.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the War Department, enclosing the following documents:

WAR DEPARTMENT, February 4, 1868.

SIR—In answer to the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 8th, I transmit herewith the correspondence between him and the President relating to the Secretary of War, which he reports to be all the correspondence he had with the President on the subject. I have had no correspondence with the President since the 12th of August last. After the action of the Senate on his alleged reasons for my suspension from the office of Secretary of War, I have resumed the duties of that office as required by the act of Congress, and have continued to discharge them without any personal or written communication with the President. No orders have been issued from this department in the name of the President, with my knowledge, and I have received no orders from him. The correspondence sent herewith embraces all the correspondence known to me on the subject referred to in the resolution of the House of Representatives.

I have the honor to be, Sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

Hon. Schuyler Colfax, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

HEADQ'RS. ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
WASHINGTON, D. C.,
January 25, 1868.

To His Excellency, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States.

SIR—On the 24th instant, I requested you to give me in writing the instructions which you had previously given me verbally, not to obey any order from Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War, unless I knew it came from yourself. To this written request I received a message that has left a doubt in my mind of your intention. To prevent any possible misunderstanding, therefore, I renew the request that you will give me written instructions, and until they are received will suspend action on your verbal ones. I am compelled to ask these instructions in writing, in consequence of the many gross misrepresentations affecting my personal honor, circulated through the Press for the last fortnight, purporting to come from the President, of conversations which occurred either with the President privately in his office, or in Cabinet meetings. What is written admits of no misunderstanding.

In view of the misrepresentation referred to, it will be well to state the facts in the case. Soon e time after I assumed the duties of Secretary of War *ad interim*, the President asked my views as to the course Mr. Stanton would have to pursue in case the Senate should not concur in his susp ension to obtain possession of his office. My reply was, in substance, that Mr. Stanton would have to appeal to the Courts to reinstate me, illustrating my position by citing the grounds I had taken in the case of the Baltimore Police Commissioners. In that case I did not doubt the technical right of Gov. Swann to remove the old Commissioners and appoint their successors. As the old Commissioners refused to give up, however, I contended that no resource was left but to appeal to the Courts. Finding that the President was desirous of keeping Mr. Stanton out of office, whether sustained in the suspension or not, I stated that I had not looked particularly into the tenure of office bill, but that what I had stated was a general principle, and if I should change my mind in this particular case, I would inform him of the fact.

Subsequently, on reading the tenure of office bill closely, I found I could not, without violation of law, refuse to vacate the office of Secretary of War the moment Mr. Stanton was reinstated by the Senate, even though the President ordered me to retain it, (which he never did). Taking this view of the subject, and learning on Saturday, the 11th inst., that the Senate had taken up the subject of Stanton's suspension, after some conversation with Lieutenant General Sherman and some members of my staff, in which I stated the law left me no discretion as to my action, should Mr. Stanton be reinstated, and I intended to inform the President. I went to the President for the sole purpose of making this decision known, and did make it so known. In this I fulfilled a promise made in our last preceding conversation on the subject. The President, however, instead of accepting my view of the requirements of the tenure of office bill, contended that he had suspended Mr. Stanton under authority given by the Constitution, and that the same authority did not preclude him from reporting as an act of courtesy his reasons for the suspension to the Senate; that having been appointed under authority given by the Constitution, and not under act of Congress, I could not be governed by the act. I stated that the law was binding on me, Constitution or not, until set aside by the proper tribunal.

An hour was consumed, each reiterating his views on this subject, until getting late, the President said he would see me again. I did not agree to call again on Monday, nor at any other definite time, nor was I sent for by the President until the following Tuesday.

From the 11th inst. to the Cabinet meeting on the 14th inst., a doubt never entered my mind about the President fully understanding my position, namely, that if the Senate refused to concur in the suspension of Mr. Stanton, my powers as Secretary of War *ad interim* would cease, and Mr. Stanton's right to resume at once the functions of his office would under the law be indisputable, and I acted accordingly.

With Mr. Stanton I had no communication, direct or indirect, on the subject of his reinstatement during his suspension. I knew it had been recommended to the President to send in the name of Governor Cox, of Ohio, for Secretary of War, and thus save all embarrassment; a proposition that I sincerely hoped he would entertain favorably, General Sherman leaving the President, at my particular request, to urge this.

On the 13th, on Tuesday, Mr. Stanton re-entered the office of the Secretary of War. Gen. Comstock, who had carried my official letter announcing that by Mr. Stanton's reinstatement by the Senate I had ceased to be Secretary *ad interim*, and who saw the President open and read the communication, brought back to me from the President a message that he wanted to see me that day at the Cabinet meeting. After I had made known the fact that I was no longer Secretary of War *ad interim* at this meeting, after opening it as though I were a member of his cabinet, when reminded of the notification already given him that I was no longer Secretary of War *ad interim*, the President gave a version of the conversation alluded to already in this statement. It was asserted that in both conversations I had agreed to hold on to the office of Secretary of War until displaced by the courts or resign, so as to place the President where he would have been had I never accepted the office. After hearing the President through, I stated our conversation substantially as given in this letter. I will add that my conversation before the Cabinet embraced other matters not pertinent here, and therefore left out. I in no wise admitted the correctness of the President's statement of our conversation, though to soften the evident contradiction of my statement, I said, alluding to our first conversation on the subject, the President might have understood me the way he said, namely: that I had promised to resign if I did not resist the reinstatement. I made no such statement. I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT, General.

HEAD'QRS. ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
WASHINGTON, D. C.,
January 24, 1867.

To His Excellency, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States.

SIR—I have the honor very respectfully to request to have in writing the order which the President gave me verbally on Sunday, the 19th inst., to disregard the orders of the Hon. E. M. Stanton as Secretary of War, until I knew from the President himself that they were his orders. I have the honor to be, very respectfully, Your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT, General.

The following is the indorsement on the above note:

"As requested in this communication, General Grant is instructed in writing not to obey any order from the War Department assumed to be issued by the direction of the President, unless such order is known by the General commanding the armies of the United States to have been authorized by the Executive.

"ANDREW JOHNSON.

January 29, 1868."

HEADQ'RS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
WASHINGTON, D. C., January 30th, 1868.

To His Excellency, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the return of my note of the 24th inst., with your indorsement thereon, that I am not to obey any order from the War Department assumed to be issued by order of the President, unless such order is known by me to be authorized by the Executive, and in reply thereto to say that I am informed by the Secretary of War that he has not received from the Executive any order or instructions limiting or impairing his authority to issue orders to the army as has heretofore been his practice under the law, and customs of the Department. While his authority in the War Department is not countermanded, it will be satisfactory evidence to me that any orders issued from the War Department by direction of the President are authorized by the Executive.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT, General.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, January 31, 1868.

GENERAL—I have received your communication of the 28th inst., renewing your request of the 24th that I should repeat in a written form my verbal instructions of the 19th inst., viz.: That you obey no order from the Hon. E. M. Stanton as Secretary of War unless you have information that it was issued by the President's direction.

In submitting this request, with which I comply, on the 29th inst., you take occasion to allude to the recent publication in reference to the circumstances connected with the vacation by yourself of the office of Secretary of War *ad interim*, and with the view of correcting the statements which you term gross misrepresentations, and give at length your own recollection of the facts under which, without the sanction of the President, from whom you had received and accepted the appointment, you yielded the Department of War to the present incumbent as stated in your communication. Sometime after you had assumed the duties of Secretary of War *ad interim*, we exchanged views respecting the course that should be pursued in the event of the non-concurrence of the Senate in the suspension of Mr. Stanton. I sought that interview, calling myself at the War Department. My sole object in then bringing the subject to your attention was to ascertain what would be your own action should such an attempt be made for his restoration to the War Department. That object was accomplished, for the interview terminated with the distinct understanding that if, under reflection, you should prefer not to become a party to the controversy, or should conclude it would be your duty to surrender the Department to Mr. Stanton upon action in his favor by the Senate, you were to return the office to me prior to a decision by the Senate, in order that if I desired to do so, I might designate some one to succeed you. It must have been apparent to you that had not this understanding been reached, it was my purpose to relieve you from further discharge of duties as Secretary of War *ad interim*, and to appoint some other person in that capacity.

Other conversations upon the subject ensued, all having on my part the same object, and leading to the same conclusion as the first. It is not necessary, however, to refer to any of them, excepting that of the 11th inst., mentioned in your communication. As it was then known that the Senate had proceeded in the case of Mr. Stanton, I was anxious to learn your determination. After a protracted interview, during which the provisions of the tenure of office bill were fully discussed, you then said that as it had been agreed upon in our first conference, you would either return the office to my possession in time to enable me to appoint a successor before final action by the Senate upon Mr. Stanton's suspension, or would remain at its head awaiting a decision by judicial proceedings. It was then understood there would be a further conference on Monday, by which time I supposed you would be prepared to inform me of your final decision. You failed, however, to fulfill the engagement, and on Tuesday notified me in writing of the receipt of your official notification of the action of the Senate in reference to Mr. Stanton, and at the same time informed me that according to the act regulating the tenure of certain civil offices, your functions of Secretary of War *ad interim* ceased from the moment of the receipt of the notice. You thus, in disregard of the understanding between us, vacated the office without having given notice of your intent to do so. It is but just to say, however, that in your communication you claim you did inform me of your purpose, and thus fulfilled the promise made in our last preceding conversation on the subject. The fact that such a promise existed is evidence of an arrangement of the kind I have mentioned.

You had found, in our first conference, that the President was desirous of keeping Mr. Stanton out of the office, whether sustained in the suspension or not. You knew what reasons had induced the President to ask from you a promise. You also knew that in case your views of duty did not accord with my own convictions, it was his purpose to fill your place by another appointment. Even ignoring the existence of a positive understanding between us, the conclusions were plainly deducible from our various conversations. It is certain, however, that even under these circumstances, you did not offer to return the place to my possession, but, according to your own statement, placed yourself in a position where, could I have anticipated your action, I would have been compelled to ask of you, as I was compelled to ask of your predecessor in the War Department, a letter of resignation, or to resort to the more disagreeable expedient of suspending you by the appointment of a successor.

As stated in your letter, the nomination of Governor Cox, of Ohio, for Secretary of War was suggested to me. This appointment, as Mr. Stanton's successor, was urged in your name, and it was said that his selection would save further embarrassment. I did not think that in the selection of a Cabinet officer I should be trammelled by such consideration. I was prepared to take the responsibility of deciding the question in accordance with my ideas of constitutional duties, and having determined upon a course which I deemed right and proper, was anxious to learn the steps you would take should the possession of the War Department be demanded by Mr. Stanton. Had your action been in conformity with the understanding between us, I do not believe that the embarrassment would have attained its present proportions, or that the probability of its repetition would have been so great.

I know that with a view to an early term ination of a state of affairs so detrimental to the public interests, you voluntarily offered, both on Monday, the 13th inst., and on the succeeding Sunday, to call upon Mr. Stanton and urge upon him that the good of the service required his resignation. I confess I considered your proposal as a sort of reparation for the failure on your part to act in accordance with an understanding more than once repeated, which I thought received your full assent, and under which you could have returned to me the office which I had conferred upon you, thus saving yourself from embarrassment, and moving the responsibility where it properly belonged, with the President, who is accountable for the faithful execution of the law. I have not yet been informed by you whether, as twice proposed by yourself, you had called upon Mr. Stanton and made an effort to induce him voluntarily to resign from the War Department.

You conclude your communication with a reference to our conversation at the meeting of the Cabinet, held on the 14th inst. In your account of what then occurred, you say that after the President had given his version of our previous conversation, you stated them substantially as given in your letter, and that you in nowise admitted the correctness of his statement, though to soften the evident contradiction my statement made, I said, alluding to our first conversation on the subject, the President might have understood me the way he said, namely: that I had promised to resign if I did not resist reinstatement. I made no such promise. My recollection of what then transpired is diametrically the reverse of your narration in the presence of the Cabinet. I asked you, first, if, in a conversation which took place shortly after your appointment as Secretary of War *ad interim* you did not agree to remain at the head of the War Department, and abide any judicial proceedings that might follow the non-concurrence of the Senate in Mr. Stanton's suspension, or should you become involved in such controversy, put me in the same position with reference to the office previous to your appointment by returning it to me in time to anticipate such action by the Senate. This you admitted.

Second, I then asked you if, at the time of the conference on the preceding Saturday, I had not, to avoid misunderstanding, requested you to state what you intended to do, and further, if, in reply to that inquiry, you had not referred to my former conversations, saying that from them I understood your position, and that your action would be consistent with the understanding which had been reached. To these questions you also replied in the affirmative.

Third, I next asked if, at the conclusion of our interview on Saturday, it was understood that we were to have another conference on Monday before final action by the Senate on the case of Mr. Stanton. You replied that such was the understanding, but that you did not suppose the Senate would act so soon; that on Monday you had been engaged in a conference with General Sherman, and were occupied with many other matters, and asked if General Sherman had not called on that day. What relevancy Gen. Sherman's visit to me on Monday had with the purpose for which you were to have called, I am at a loss to perceive, as he certainly did not inform me whether you had determined to retain the office or to afford me an opportunity to appoint a successor in advance of any attempted reinstatement of Mr. Stanton.

This account of what passed between us at the Cabinet meeting on the 14th inst. widely differs from that contained in your communication, for it shows that instead of having stated our conversation as given in the letter—which has made this reply necessary—you admitted that my recital of them was entirely accurate. Sincerely anxious, however, to be correct in my statements, I have to-day read this narration of what occurred on the 14th inst. to the members of the Cabinet who were then present. They, without exception, agree in its accuracy.

It is only necessary to add that on Wednesday morning, the 15th, you called on me in company with Lieut. Gen. Sherman. After some preliminary conversation, you remarked that an article in the *National Intelligencer* of that date did you injustice. I replied that I had not read the *Intelligencer* of that morning. You first told me it was your intention to urge Mr. Stanton to resign his office after you had withdrawn. I carefully read the article of which you spoke, and found that its statements of the understanding between us was substantially correct.

On the 17th I caused it to be read to four or five members of the Cabinet, who were present at our conference on the 14th, and they concurred in the general accuracy of the statements respecting our conversation on that occassion. In reply to your communication, I have deemed it proper to prevent further misunderstanding by making this simple recital of facts.

Very respectfully, yours,

ANDREW JOHNSON.

General Ulysses S. Grant, commanding United States army.

HEADQ'RS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
WASHINGTON, D. C., February 3, 1868.

To His Excellency, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States:

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 31st ult., in answer to mine of the 28th ult. After a careful reading and comparison of it with the article in the *National Intelligencer* of the 15th ult., and with the article over the initials "J. B. S.," in the New York *World* of the 27th ult., purporting to be based upon your statement and that of the members of the Cabinet therein named, I find it only to be but a reiteration, only somewhat more in detail, of the many and gross misrepresentations contained in those articles, and which my statement of facts, set forth in my letter of the 24th ult., was intended to correct; and herein I reassert the correctness of my statements in that letter, anything in yours to the contrary notwithstanding.

I confess my surprise that the Cabinet officers referred to should so greatly misapprehend the facts in the matter of admissions alleged to have been made by me at the Cabinet meeting on the 14th ult., as to suffer their names to be made the basis of the charges in the newspaper article referred to, or agree to the accuracy, as you affirm they do, of your account of what occurred at that meeting. You know we parted on the 11th ult., without any promise on my part, expressed or implied, to the effect that I would hold on to the office of Secretary of War *ad interim* against the action of the Senate, or declining to do so, would surrender it to you before such action was had, or that I would see you again at any fixed time on the subject. The performance of the promises alleged to have been made by me would have involved a resistance of the law and an inconsistency with the whole history of my connection with the suspension of Mr. Stanton. From our conversation and my written protest of August 1st, 1867, against the removal of Mr. Stanton you must have known my greatest objection to his removal was the fear that some one would be appointed in his stead who would, by opposition to the laws relating to the restoration of the Southern States to their proper relations to the Government, embarrass the army in the performance of the duties especially imposed upon it by the laws, and that it was to prevent such an appointment that I accepted the appointment of Secretary of War *ad interim*, and not for the purpose of enabling you to get rid of Mr. Stanton by withholding it from him in opposition to the law, or, not doing so myself, surrender to one who, as the statement and assumptions in your communication plainly indicate, was sought, and it was to avoid this danger as well as to relieve you from the personal embarrassment in which Mr. Stanton's reinstatement would place you, that I urged the appointment of Governor Cox, believing it would be agreeable to you and also to Mr. Stanton, satisfied as I was that it was the good of the country and not the office the latter desired.

On the 13th ult., in the presence of General Sherman, I stated to you I thought Mr. Stanton would resign, but did not say I would advise him to do so. On the 18th, I did agree with General Sherman and go and advise him to that course, and on the 19th, I had an interview at one o'clock with Mr. Stanton, which led me to the conclusion that any advice would be useless, and so informed General Sherman, before I consented to advise Mr. Stanton to resign. I understood from him in conversation on the subject immediately on his reinstatement, that it was his opinion that the act of Congress entitled "an act temporarily to supply vacancies in the Executive Department in certain cases," approved February 20th, 1863, was repealed by subsequent legislation, which materially influenced my action. Previous to this time I had no doubt that the law of 1863 was still in force and notwithstanding my action, a fuller examination of the laws leaves a question in my mind whether it is or is not repealed. This being the case, I could not now advise resignation lest the same danger I apprehended in this first removal might follow.

The course you would have it understood I agreed to pursue was in violation of law, and that ordered by you, while the course I did pursue, and which I never doubted you fully understood, was in accordance with law, and not in disobedience to any orders of my superior. And now, Mr. President, when my honor as a soldier and integrity as a man has been so violently assailed, pardon me for saying that I can but regard this whole matter, from beginning to end, as an attempt to involve me in the resistance of the law, for which you hesitated to assume the responsibility, in order thus to destroy my character before the country. I am, in a measure, confirmed in this conclusion by your recent orders directing me to disobey orders from the Secretary of War, my superior, and your subordinates; without having countermanded his authority, I am to disobey. With the assurance, Mr. President, that nothing less than a vindication of my personal honor and character could have induced this correspondence on my part, I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT, General.

The Management of Our Affairs Abroad by Messrs. Seward and Adams.

Mr. Edwin de Leon, late "confidential agent of the Confederate Department of State in Europe," says as to the Trent affair: "It is but just to Mr. Seward to say here that his actions in the premises were sagacious and statesmanlike, and it required no small share of moral courage to assume the responsibility of surrendering up the public prisoners in the midst of the wild excitement and popular approval of the act. A weaker or less sagacious man in his place would have braved the consequences, and those consequences would have been a war with England in thirty days, the recognition of the Southern Confederacy by England and France, followed by all the lesser Powers, and the rapid and effective breaking up of the blockade. The combination of these causes would have insured the independence and success of the Confederacy beyond a doubt.

"Placed in a position of infinite difficulty and delicacy, the representative of the Washington Government at London had no common task to perform. Yet it is due to Mr. Adams to acknowledge he played well his part, and by his singular moderation of language and action tempered down the rough edges of Mr. Seward's rougher diplomacy. Both friend and foe admitted that in these trying circumstances he sustained his own dignity and that of the people he represented, as far as was within his power to do so, and won reluctant admiration from many who loved not the cause or the government he sustained. Had an indiscreet or less sensible man filled that post at that time, all the astuteness and all the dexterity of Mr. Seward could not have prevented war."

The celebrated case of Dun, Winan & Co., against Bradstreet & Son, for book piracy, was argued in the Court of Chancery, at Toronto, on Friday last, and resulted in a decree for the plaintiff carrying costs.

Hindoo Indifference to Death.

In the last number of *Every Saturday* there is an article, copied, we suppose, from an English magazine, which is a review of a book entitled "Sketches of Scenery and Society in Mauritius." The review contains little criticism, but copious extracts from the sketches. These will be read with interest by all those who are familiar with Paul and Virginia, the great little romance of St. Pierre. Just one hundred years ago, in 1768, the author of Paul and Virginia was a resident in the Isle of France, and among his works is a highly entertaining account of his voyage to the island, and of his observations made while a sojourner there. We hope, as soon as we can get a copy of the Sketches quoted from in the review, to furnish our readers with a brief comparison of the descriptions written at so long an interval apart. We quote, in the meantime, one statement from the review for the purpose of adding a remark. In regard to the Malabars or Indians in the island, it is said: "As a culminating point of their character, they are almost indifferent to death. In the time of the French they disliked the guillotine, but they are said to prefer *hanging* to hard labor. By the English way of dispatching him out of this world, the criminal arrives in the other a whole man; by the French, maimed and mutilated, being headless, about which unbecoming appearance in Paradise they have a most decided religious scruple."

There is hardly anything much more remarkable or astonishing than the stoicism and indifference with which a Hindoo, whose general timidity is an obvious characteristic, confronts inevitable death. From frantic terror, shown in every movement of his body and in the most abject prayers for mercy and life, while there seems a chance of escape, to a quiet and even dignified resignation to the unavoidable prevalence of the common lot, when all chances of escape have vanished, the transition is sometimes so sudden as to be surprising. This was frequently exemplified during the suppression of the mutiny or rebellion of 1857. The remark was often made by the officers who superintended the execution of the rebels—"nothing in the life of these men could be so becoming as their manner of leaving it." There was only one mode of execution, the prospect of which lost nothing of its terror on near approach, and that was what is technically called "blowing from a gun." Though believed by both Hindoos and English to be one of the easiest and least painful of deaths, it is regarded by men of caste with a horror which it is impossible to describe. The criminal is brought up to the gun's mouth, his stomach placed against its muzzle, and his head and chest pressed down upon the barrel and bound there with a cord. Of course he is literally blown into fragments which cover the ground for the space of several rods. In the mind of a Brahmin the thing dreaded is neither the pain—which can be nothing—nor the disfigurement or mutilation in Paradise, but the inevitable physical pollution which degrades him forever in the memory of surviving friends, and excludes him from participation in the blessedness of the twice-born pure. During those terrible times, when a handful of white men were striving and holding their own against thirty millions of dark men, it is only fair to state the truth—that this frightful punishment was seldom inflicted. It is a mode of punishment devised by Hindoos, and often practiced by Hindoo Rajahs and by Sikh generals.

Savings of the Freedmen.

From the annexed report of the Freedmen's Savings and Trust Company, for 1867, it appears that the organization now has twenty offices, the principal one being in Washington; the aggregate of deposits for the year was a little over $1,900,000, and the excess of deposits over the drafts was about $273,000; the whole amount deposited since the institution was opened is upwards of $3,000,000, of which nearly $600,000 is now in the bank and drawing interest; the heaviest business of the year was at Beaufort, where the deposits amounted to near $400,000. The deposits of several other places were as follows: Charleston, $261,630; Washington, $271,000; Louisville, $137,000; Jackson, $156,000.

Imports and Exports.

The import entries for the past week at the port of New York, including the dry goods return in our last paper, amount to $9,347,904, against the total entries of $4,207,980 same week last year. The export clearances of domestic produce amount to $3,369,823, against $3,210,976 same week last year. The export of specie amounts to $659,100 against $485,008 same week last year. The customs of the week are $2,266,590. The receipts of cotton, coastwise and by railroad, are 2,340 bales. The gold value of the import entries of foreign merchandise at New York since July 1, 1867, the beginning of the current fiscal year, are officially (to January 1) and semi-officially (since) reported as follows—the entries of foreign specie being omitted:

July	$24,000,260	January 4	$5,095,822
August	19,000,700	January 11	4,450,063
September	20,681,340	January 18	3,567,481
October	23,055,697	January 25	2,918,850
November	15,889,688	February 1	3,947,594
December	11,112,968		
Total since July 1			$130,922,074
Against same time 1867			158,172,858
Decrease since July 1			$27,249,830

The Tax Question in Congress.

A letter from an intelligent source in Washington says: "The taxes will undoubtedly be limited to as few articles as possible. On man

PRESIDENTIAL.

Horatio Seymour has written another letter declining to be a Presidential candidate. He says: "In my letter I said what I meant, and I am annoyed to find it is looked upon by some as a strategic movement. I have had a large number of letters from leading men in the Northwest. I have written to them that my name would not go before the National Convention. I am very much gratified that my friends are willing to support me for the office of President—as much pleased as if I wished the office."

The recent movement in New York in favor of Johnson is interpreted to mean that in the hands of Doolittle, Randall and other deserters from the Republicans, with a few Democrats, he will be a candidate "whether or no." The managers are said to be greatly encouraged, and all the patronage of the White House is to be dispensed to assist them. "Boston" Kerry nomination to the Marshalship of Western Pennsylvania is the latest card played in the game.

As the election approaches we may look for a large crop of spirited campaign songs. One of the first of them, which appeared in the N Y. *Dispatch*, rings with a vigorous and stirring strain as follows:

Hurrah! for Old Appomattox! Hurrah for General Grant!
With him we whipped the rebels, and a song for him we chant,
We'll rally round his battle flag, the flag of Union true,
And five the Rebel Gray again before the Loyal Blue.
Oh! he knows the Boys in Blue! Yes! he knows the Boys in Blue,
And with ballots as with bullets he will find them ever true,
And the Graybacks as the Copperheads will learn the fate
That our Yankee lads will ne'er forget the wearing of the blue.

They may weep for Stonewall Jackson, and of Lee sing a dirge,
Or in military vaunting, they may sing of Albert Sidney;
While we shout for Old Appomattox, and vote for him we must,
They may sympathize with Davis and uphold his beaten crew,
But no Rebel Gray shall ever stay the Loyal Boys in Blue,
Oh! we trust the Boys in Blue! Oh! we know the Boys in Blue,
And they'll never flinch, or give an inch, while work they have to do.
So, bring on your Rebel Gray again, and give us but a view,
And we'll show you that we don't forget the wearing of the Blue!

"Mack," who has the doubtful honor of "running" Mr. Johnson, delivers himself of the decidedly bright idea that the Democratic party must call the Philadelphia Convention together again, "and go into the fight with Andrew Johnson, or some such man." Now as there is no other "such man" as Mr. Johnson in the Democracy, acting on this advice, would surely have no alternative. Let them take Johnson by all means.

There will be a grand Grant meeting in Union Square, New York, on the 22d of February. A large number of distinguished speakers have agreed to be present, and the occasion will be the formal opening of the campaign.

The Bradford county, Pa., Republican Convention yesterday passed resolutions recommending General Grant for President, and Hon. G. A. Grow for Vice President. Mr. Grow's home is in Bradford county.

PERSONAL.

—The New Bedford *Mercury* says that J. Ross Browne, now nominated as Minister to China, took out a protection at the custom-house, in that city, July 13, 1843, being then, as he swore, twenty-one years of age, and a native of Louisville, Kentucky. He shipped as a green hand on board the bark Bruce, of Fairhaven, Captain Silas Alden, and returned in her from a whaling voyage. An apt scholar, one voyage sufficed, and instead of making a second, Ross Browne wrote and published an account of the first, under the title of "A Whaling Cruise in the Pacific Ocean." We have heard of him he was connected with the Treasury Department at Washington, during the reigns of Pierce and Buchanan, as an agent to visit custom-houses, and since then he has been employed by the Government in various capacities, the last, we believe, as Commissioner to examine and report upon the mineral resources of the States and Territories west of the Rocky Mountains.

—The Princess Metternich is thus described in a Paris periodical: "She is said not to be pretty. Listen to the enumeration of her beauties; eyes which have the sweetness of a German reverie; teeth of brightest enamel; a forehead smooth and clear as an infant's, high and wide as that of a thinker; and abundant silky brown hair. People seem not to notice two particular beauties of her Austrian Highness—the form of her head, as Greek as that of the Venus of Milo; her ear like a pink shell—whereas, every one does justice to the beautiful fall of her shoulders, the exquisite form of her arm, the long aristocratic hands, and the narrow, dainty foot. Be she dressed in blue, red, or yellow; be she coiffed with her toque over her eyes, or with a sergent-de-ville cap, as she appeared one day at the Tuileries—she is and remains a princess; and there are not many now. Witty, with a heart of gold, and extremely charitable, she is the adoration of the workingman's families in the faubourg St. Antoine; jumping the children on her knee, washing them, kissing them, sitting on a stool if there are not chairs enough—such is the woman. Decidedly she will attached to a good man—Prince de Metternich—such is the wife."

—Mr. Dickens appears not to have been successful in Philadelphia. It was only by the plentiful distribution of the free tickets that the house was respectably filled, and it is said his reading gave but poor satisfaction. In his famous "Notes," Mr. Dickens was not at all pleased with Washington, and it is quite probable that his impressions gained from this visit will not be much better.

—Dr. Bellows don't like the circumlocution of the Berlin restaurants. He writes that in that city one man receives an order, another carries it, a third transfers it, a fourth executes it, a fifth receives the money, and the sixth makes it over to the original ordered. It takes twenty minutes to get a chop which would be before you in five minutes in an American eating house.

—The Chicago *Price Current* says of Orvil L. Grant, brother of the General, and in business in Chicago, that in appearance he bears a striking resemblance to the great chieftain. He is reticent, and can seldom be drawn into a lengthened conversation, but when he speaks, especially concerning his own line of business, every detail of which he thoroughly understands, his remarks are pithy and pointed, and evince self-reliance and clear-headedness in a remarkable degree. He is very fond of fast horses, and enjoys the reputation of being an excellent "whip." Mr. Grant is a true Yankee American, a go-ahead, active business man; he is proud of Ulysses, and thinks him a credit to the family, but is determined that his relationship to so great a person shall not overshadow or obscure his own individuality.

—Dr. Van Oosterzee, professor in the University at Utrecht, is regarded as the greatest preacher in Holland. He is favorably known in America by his share in Lange's great Commentary. Probably a volume of Van Oosterzee's sermons will shortly be given to the American public. The translation—which, owing to the idiomatic felicities of the preacher's style, is a difficult work—is being made under the supervision of the Rev. Philip J. Hoedemacher, D.D., one of the rising men in Holland. Dr. Hoedemacher is a friend of Van Oosterzee, spent seven or eight years of his boyhood in America, and is a fine scholar, and although a young man, already an author.

—The longest beard on record is that of John Mayo, a celebrated German painter, surnamed "John the Bearded," who used to fasten it up in his girdle. Though a very tall man, it reached the ground when loose, so that he could step on it. The Emperor Charles the Fifth used to divert himself by making John stand in the open air among his courtiers, that he might watch the wind make it fly in the faces of the latter.

—John Beatty, the father of Gen. Beatty, the new Ohio Congressman, was a soap and candle maker in New London, Connecticut, Irish, generous and genial. He once arrested a young fellow countryman in his employ for stealing a box of candles, and having testified that they were worth $3, "every penny of it," the Judge sentenced the boy to whipping in addition to a fine. The poor fellow began to cry; Beatty's eyes moistened. He sprang to his feet and said to the Court: "Please your Honor, that was my retail price, but as he took the whole box, I can afford to call it $3 25!" The young Irishman was not whipped.

Business Failures of January.

The business record of January is unpleasant and discouraging, and shows how real and general is the depression under which the mercantile and manufacturing interests are struggling. For the four weeks ending January 25, a total of 373 failures were reported, with aggregate liabilities of $8,000,000, and many other items, in a sinking condition, will be likely to go under before the month is out, making the total of failures and suspensions very large. In New York city there have been twenty-five failures, the entire liabilities being $2,950,000, though the heaviest occurring most lately have been mainly of small concerns. The great house of L. C. Hopkins & Co., of Cincinnati, which failed for $1,150,000 early in the month, will pay only 25 cents on a dollar, and it is not certain that the percentage which will return to the creditors will be very small. The firms that have yielded to the pressure, with few exceptions, have not been large or important, and everything like a panic has so far been successfully avoided. Manufacturers and dealers in staple articles have not suffered heavily, and the mills and factories have continued their production more largely than constantly then was anticipated when the winter commenced. The conventions at Cleveland and Worcester, if having no other result, have brought the business men of the country into personal intercourse and contact, increasing their confidence in each other and the future, and the commercial convention at Boston, next month, will work the same effects on a larger scale. The removal of the unsound and uncertain elements from the list of those doing business is not altogether, nor in any great degree, a misfortune; it offers warning and encouragement for those that remain.

William Gilmore Simms, the novelist, is not in the very reduced circumstances represented, but is rebuilding his place, destroyed together with his library and gallery of paintings by Gen. Sherman's army, at Woodlands, sixty miles from Charleston; nor is he eighty years old, as papers say, but is full twenty years short of that figure.

STATE NEWS.

In the Luzerne County Court in session at Wilkesbarre Saturday, Judge Wolcott, a notorious desperado, was sentenced on three indictments to fourteen years and three months' imprisonment, with orders that at the expiration of that time he be returned to this court for sentence under eight additional indictments.

The Marine Hospital at Erie, Pa., was incorporated by the last Legislature, and was granted three hundred acres of land owned by the State, at the first appropriation. It is now proposed to enter into contract for the erection of suitable buildings for hospital purposes on a site containing one hundred acres, in the city of Erie, a part of the State land grant.

A "wooden wedding" came off at the McHenry House, in Meadville, a few days since, in honor of the fifth marriage anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. F. Welch, the landlord and landlady of that popular house. The *Republican* says: "After the regular ceremonies of presentation, which included nearly every article of household utility or ornament of wood manufacture, the party spent the evening in dancing and social intercourse.

A lad named Harrington, aged fourteen years, while hauling logs last Friday, near Youngsville, Warren county, was crushed to death by a large log falling upon him.

It is said that a portion of the membership of the new society of female Druids in Harrisburg have seceded, and that a delegation of Philadelphia sisters will be in the former city during this week to give them an independent organization.

The Huntingdon *Globe* says: A lady by the name of Peterman, of Milton, was married on the 19th ult., and while the preacher was engaged in the exercises of the marriage ceremony, as she gave her assent to the question, "Will you take this man to be your lawful and wedded husband," &c., she instantly became blind. Probably her husband's name was Blind.

The authorities of Carlisle, Cumberland county, Pa., have taken John R. Noble in hand for selling diseased meat. He has been sentenced to twenty days' imprisonment, and to pay thirty dollars fine—a very moderate punishment.

The property of the Reno Oil and Land Company came into possession of Culver, Penn & Co., on Thursday. It is the intention of these gentlemen to commence developing the property at once for the benefit of their creditors.

The English Masses and the Rate of Wages.

In his "Principles of Political Economy," Mr. J. Stuart Mill observes: "When I speak of the 'laboring classes,' or of laborers as a 'class,' I use these phrases in compliance with custom, and as descriptive of an existing, but by no means, a necessary or permanent state of social relations. I do not recognize as either just or salutary, a state of society in which there is any 'class' which is not laboring, any human beings exempt from bearing their share of the necessary labors of human life, except those unable to labor, or who have fairly earned rest by previous toil. So long, however, as the grand social evil exists of a non-laboring class, laborers also constitute a class, and may be spoken of, though only provisionally, in that character."

Mr. Edmund Potter, a wealthy Manchester manufacturer, who represents the cathedral town of Carlisle in Parliament (not to be confounded with Mr. T. B. Potter), has just written a pamphlet, in which he incidentally classifies the population of England and Wales, and as he is a high authority in such investigations, I will give you the bare results. Of the English and Welsh population of twenty one millions, he puts the lowest class at rather more than two millions—namely, the hopeless mass of paupers, half a million of the loose and dangerous class; another million always on the verge of pauperism from poverty of employment and ignorance; the remaining million being produced from the ranks of the working men who are dependent upon seasons for chance employment, and who have neither earnings nor saving sufficient to pay for wholesome food or decent dwellings. Above this class of four millions Mr. Potter takes a second, composed probably of the same number. This number is made up of poorer paid working classes, unskilled workers, handicrafts-men and agricultural laborers—a class not much attached to machinery, and whose receipts per head, apart from rent, are but a few shillings each. A third class or section, composed of another million, or rather more, comprises the better higher skilled workmen and artizans of various kinds. This class have gained great benefit from the increased means of education during the past thirty years, and still more from what may be called the general diffusion of information—from their employment on machinery in scientific trades, from cheap books, locomotion, and greatly from the large circulation of cheap newspapers. This class, as a body, has largely increased during the last twenty years, owing to free trade, eminently prosperous, and with the exception of the cotton workers during the late American war, very regularly employed. The skilled mechanics and higher paid manual laborers, such as iron-workers, have risen very rapidly in means and wages, though not too apt to look upon their regular weekly receipts as annuities. Mr. Potter states, and he ought to know, that a thousand firms of iron-masters, engineers, woolen and cotton manufacturers, &c., could show wages-books containing the records of earnings, of differences, &c. Mr. Morton said: 'I will give you what credit you wish.' 'But,' said the merchant, 'I am an entire stranger to you.' Mr. Morton replied: 'Yes, I was at church with him.' 'Well, I will trust any man whom Robert Lennox will take to church with him.'

I hope these three lessons of watchfulness over the interests of their employers, watchfulness over their partners' interests and their own, after they are joined, followed by intense watchfulness that no black sheep creep into their folds, may be impressed by these anecdotes upon the minds of those for whom they are intended.

One other lesson I feel it very necessary to inculcate—that of patience.

With a little patience most young men will find a position as high as they have fitted themselves to fill.

Of all the changes which have taken place in my firm since 1822, no partner has been brought in who has not served as a clerk in the establishment. And I now have my house well organized, prosperous and free from complications, still in the hands of those who have served in it as clerks for a longer or shorter period. I mention this as an encouragement to young men to persevere in the faithful performance of their duties.

A LONG JOURNEY.—Through freight lines on the various railroads of the country are working a great revolution in the freight traffic of the companies interested in them. One of the freight cars of the Red Line Transit Company, loaded in Boston one day last week with merchandise consigned to Messrs. A. S. Day & Co., Jenkins's Eddy Mills, Old Dominion, Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, passed through Buffalo, New York, on Monday morning. The destination of the car is a station on the Union Pacific Railway, 1,000 miles west of Chicago. The car will go a total distance of 2,090 miles on the trip.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 5, 1868.

The measure that was proposed last week by some of the Philadelphia members of the Legislature to establish seven per cent. as the legal rate of interest does not meet with much favor or even attention. The Philadelphia *Ledger* remarks that the proposition fixing a higher rate of interest than six per cent. is very well as far as it goes, but it does not go far enough. We do not mean that the rate of interest ought to be higher than seven per cent., but that the rate should not be limited at all. Why should not money be as freely dealt in as any other commodity, and the same liberty be extended to borrowers and lenders to fix the price, as is granted to buyers and sellers of potatoes, pork, or other articles of traffic? Why this discrimination? The holders of all marketable commodities are free to sell on the best terms the market affords. Not so with money. The moment that becomes the subject of barter the freedom of the market is interfered with, and the law of supply and demand, which regulates transactions in every other species of property, are met by usury laws, imposing penalties, the risks of which have to be paid by the borrower, over and above the market price. These laws, maintained on the pretext of protecting the borrower, naturally work to his oppression, for while the lender will never let his money go under its full market value, he will not incur the risk of any penalty without an additional charge to cover that risk. We have always taken the ground that the same freedom should be allowed in bargaining for the use of capital as for the purchase of corn or cattle, and we have always held and maintained these views, for the interest of the borrower rather than the lender, though mainly for the reason that free trade in money is equitable and just to all concerned. It has always contended for the full and absolute right of all individuals, employers and workmen alike, to bring to market the commodity they have to dispose of, whether it be labor, the product of labor, or capital, and to dispose of it on the best terms in their power, as long, and only as long, as they exercise their own rights without prejudice to the rights of others. Public sentiment no longer considers it a crime to lend money at high rates of interest. It is not only justified all around us, but we have example of enlightened England and Holland in proof of the good results of expunging from their statute books the designation and the penalties of a crime which no man feels to be such. The wisest who have treated of this subject have demonstrated the impolicy of restraints of the most perfect freedom. No man of ripe years and sound mind, acting freely and with his eyes open, ought to be hindered, with a view to his advantage, from making such bargain in way of obtaining money as he thinks proper, nor anybody hindered from supplying him on any terms he thinks proper to accede to. While the Legislature may properly fix the rate of interest in the absence of special contract, it ought not to impose restraints nor seek to enforce penalties in maintaining them at any arbitrary figure.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co., bankers, report the following quotations for governments as received from Jay Cooke & Co., their New York correspondents:—U. S. 6s 1881, 111¾; U. S. 5-20s, '62, 111¼; do '64, 108⅝; do '65, May and November, 109⅜; do '65, January and July, 107⅜; U. S. 10-40s, 104⅜; December, 1864, Compounds, 117⅜; June 7-30s, 107⅜, July 7-30s, 107⅜; Gold, 141; 5-20s, 1867, 107⅜.

Messrs. James T. Brady & Co., bankers, report the following sales of government securities to-day:—Gold, 141¾; U. S. 6s, 1881, 111¾; U. S. 5-20s, 1862, 111¼; do 1864, 108¾; do 1865, 109¾; U. S. 10-40s, 104⅜; U. S. 5-20s, January and July, 1865, 107⅜; do 1867, 107⅜; June 7-30s 107⅝; July do, 107⅜; May Compounds, 1865, 117⅜.

—Railways are lower and still under the bear pressure; Fort Wayne has dropped down 3½ per cent. since Saturday, and other leading stocks in proportion.

—The County Treasurer has notified the stockholders of the Exchange National Bank and the Fourth National Bank of this city, to pay the tax assessed on the current value of each share, namely, a tax of three mills upon every dollar of value agreeable to act of Assembly approved April 12th, 1867. Those were the only National Banks that did not accept the offer to pay to the State Treasurer a tax of one per cent. per annum upon the par value of their capital stock, that the shareholders might be exempt from all other taxation on their shares. The County Treasurer will have to collect from the shareholders individually this three mill tax. The Exchange Bank stock was assessed at $66 and the Fourth National Bank $100. The amount of tax to be collected from the former is $4,158, and from the latter $831.

—The following is going the rounds of the press: "A rule by which counterfeit greenbacks or national bank notes can be detected, has lately been discovered, which upon thorough trial, has proved infallible. It is this: Divide the last two figures of the number of the bill by four, and if one remains the letter on the genuine will be A. If two remains it will be B; if three remains it will be C. For example: a note is registered 2,041; divide forty-one by four, and you will have one remaining. According to the rule the letter on the note will be A. In case the rule fails, be certain that the note is counterfeit. This rule would rather assist shovers of counterfeit money. It is most fallacious and cannot be relied upon. A counterfeit is an imitation of the genuine, and whatever numbers or words that is on the good bill will of course be copied on the counterfeit. For example a note that is registered 2,641, if counterfeit, would contain the same figures, and if divided by four would have one remaining, and according to the above rule would be genuine!"

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 5, 1868. }

Our general markets were quiet, to-day, but there is a noticeable improvement in business over that reported during the past week. Buyers are more inclined to purchase, but as yet exercise considerable caution as to the amount they take, and govern their purchases by the actual wants of the trade. Flour is more active this week than it has been for a month past. In groceries there has been an advance in sugar and molasses. Other articles remain about the same as last quoted.

Since our last issue receipts of leading articles of produce have been light, owing no doubt to the extreme cold weather that has prevailed most of the week. We note the following: Flour, 222 bbls; apples, 6 bbls; corn, 407 sacks; wheat, 147 sacks; barley, 62 sacks; rye, 26 sacks; oats, 1,015 sacks; and butter, 37 packages.

We quote as follows, which are the wholesale store prices, unless otherwise noted:

ASHES—There has been very little sold here, and the stock in market reduced very low. We quote choice appleton in demand at $6 00 ₩ bbl.

ASHES—Common soda ash is quoted at 4½c ₩ lb; refined at 5c ₩ lb, and pearls nominally 11@12c ₩ lb.

BACON, LARD, ETC—The market continues firm, but without change in prices. We quote S. C. hams at 16@16½c; plain shoulders at 10@10½ S. C. shoulders are held at 11c; plain sides at 13@13½c; clear in thereo 14c, and in kegs 14@15c; dried beef at 20c, and breakfast bacon at 18c ₩ lb.

MESS PORK—We quote mess pork at $22 00@22 50 ₩ bbl.

LARD OIL—Market firm at $1 15 ₩ gallon for No. 1 extra, and 90c ₩ gallon for No. 2.

BUTTER—The receipts have been quite large and lower prices are anticipated. We quote extra choice at 50@55c; choice, 45@48c; and fair at 40@42c ₩ lb.

EGGS—The cold weather has checked receipts, and prices are a shade higher than they were a few days ago. We quote fresh, in good order, at 38@39c ₩ dozen.

HAMS—Prices are advancing. We note sales of 10 bbls small white at $4 25 ₩ bushel, but nearly all holders are asking $4 50 ₩ bushel, and refuse to take less.

CHEESE—We quote Factory at 17c, Limburger at 18c, and Goshen at 20c ₩ lb.

CRANBERRIES—We quote cultivated at $12 50@13 50 ₩ bbl, as to quality.

DRIED FRUITS—We quote peaches halved at 10@ 10½c, and apples at 7½c ₩ lb.

HOMINY—Flint hominy is selling at $7 25 ₩ bbl.

POTATOES—We quote peachblow potatoes at $1 00@1 10 ₩ bushel.

DRESSED HOGS—In the Diamond Market were selling at 9@10c ₩ lb.

HAY—Baled hay is quoted at $20@22 ₩ ton, as to quality, and loose timothy hay was selling, from country wagons, at $17@18 ₩ ton.

SEED—There is very little doing. We quote flax seed at $2 35 ₩ bush; clover seed at $7 50@8 00, and timothy seed at $2 50@2 75 ₩ bush.

GRAIN—The receipts of nearly all kinds of grain are very light, but adequate to supply the demand at present prices. Barley may be quoted in demand at $1 80@2 00 ₩ bush for spring. It takes a choice article to command the latter figure. We have not heard of any fall barley offering. Oats in bulk may be quoted at 64@66c ₩ bush, and from store at 68c ₩ bush. The receipts of oats are more liberal and lower prices are anticipated. There is very little inquiry for corn, and it seems to be a sort of drag, as we seldom hear of sales to any amount whatever. Choice bolted in bulk or car load will not command more than $1 00@1 05 ₩ bush, and it can hardly be quoted at that price. Rye is little sought after, and may be quoted nominally at $1 30@1 35 ₩ bush. We have no reported sales of wheat, and there is no apparent demand at the late decline. We quote the mill prices at $2 40@2 42 for red winter, and choice white wheat at $2 50 bush. It requires a rare article to command over these figures.

CORN MEAL—We quote corn meal from store at $1 05@1 10 ₩ bushel.

RYE FLOUR—We quote at $8 ₩ bbl.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—The general wholesale store prices are $4 50 ₩ hundred. The market is well supplied.

FLOUR—The market has been more active this week than it has been for the past month. Dealers are buying in larger lots. The stock on the market is small, and prices are firmer, owing to the high price of wheat in the Western markets, some of the leading mills are idle, as they have no margin to go on. We give below the schedule of prices of one of our principal dealers:

Family, $12 00@13 00
Extra, 10 00@11 00
Extra Superfine, 8 50@9 00
Superfine, 7 00@7 50
Rye, 8 00
Buckwheat, 4 50

The sugar and molasses market is excited and higher prices are now asked in consequence of an advance in New Orleans of Louisiana products, choice goods being held there at 11c for sugar, and 82c for molasses. Unless gold recedes sweets must be still higher. Refined sugars firm at the advance.

COFFEE—Old Government Java, in bags, 37c; in mats, 33c; Laguayra, 26@27c; Rio, choice 28c; prime, 25c; good, 23c; roasting, 20@21c.

MOLASSES—Porto Rico, 14@15c; Cuba, 13@14½c; Sugar House, 11½@12½c; Open Kettle, 18c; Powdered, 15c; Crushed, 18c; A Coffee, 17c; B do, 16½c; extra C, 16¼c; C 16; New Orleans 14@15c.

MOLASSES—New Orleans, 85@90c; Porto Rico, 70@80c; Cuba, 65@70c; Demerara, 85c.

SYRUP—Lovering's, $1 00; other choice brands, $1 00; fair to good, 80@85c.

TEAS—Young Hyson, common to finest, 90c@$ 1 85; Imperial and Gunpowder, do, $1 25@2 00; Japan, 80@$1 25; Oolong, 90c@$1 75.

RICE—Carolina, 11@12½c; Rangoon, 10½@11¼c.

VINEGAR—Pure white wine vinegar, in original packages, 75c; common 25@30c.

FISH—No. 1 Shore Mackerel, $18@19; No. 2 Shore, $15; No. 1 Bay do, $20; No. 2 Bay do, $15; No. 3 large do, $12 50@13 00; Lake Herring, $8 75; White Fish, $6 75. Codfish, 5@6c ₩ lb.

SODA—English Blkemph 8c, American 8c.

SPICES—Black Pepper, 28c; Cloves, 45c; Nutmegs, $1 60; Cassia, 80c.

SALT—McKeon, Van Hangen & Co.'s Chemical Olive, 115c; Babbett's, 115c; Oakley's, 110.

DYE—Concentrated Lye, $7 25.

CANDLES—Proctor & Gamble's star candles, 20c for full weight.

INDIGO—Madras 90c@$1 80; Manilla 90c@$1 45.

BAR LEAD—12½c.

DROP SHOT—13c.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
THURSDAY, February 6, 1868. }

BUSINESS—We have no improvement to notice in regard to oil. The inquiry was limited, and sales were of a similar description; generally speaking, parties are inclined to hold off, preferring to let things take their course. It seems that no one wants to purchase, neither are sellers disposed to make any concessions in order to effect sales. The Eastern news is pretty much the same feature of the market.

NEW YORK—P L S to W, 23c; S W, 24c; crude in bulk, 15c.

OIL CITY—Dispatches report the market quiet. The nominal rates were $2 35 ₩ bbl. In our own market buyers appeared shy and not inclined to operate at the present time.

CRUDE—The prices we have learned of for some days were 1,000 barrels, bulk on the spot, at 7¾c, and 3,000 barrels, bulk for March and April, at 7⅞c ₩ gallon. Most dealers were holding out for 7¾c, on spot. The nominal rates for Butler, Allegheny were, March and April 7¾@7¾c; May 8c. The crude receipts by railroad were 1,044 barrels.

REFINED OIL—We could not learn of a single operation for present or future delivery. The last sale of standard white we reported, for Philadelphia delivery on spot, was 22½c ₩ gallon.

Oil City Oil Market.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Commercial.

OIL CITY, Wednesday, February 5, 1868.

Market for crude quiet, but prices are firm, at $2 35 to 2 40, delivered at Oil City, and $2 10 to 2 15 on Creek.

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PETROLEUM MARKETS.

PHILADELPHIA—The quietude which has characterized the market for the past two weeks still continues, the only change in the disposition was in the *Commercial List*, to speculate for a future rise or fall in prices, and prices remain about the same as at the close of the previous week. The scarcity of vessels and impediments to navigation have contributed to increase their idleness. Small sales of crude at 18@19½c; 8,000 barrels refined, S W, in bond, at 22½@22½c, b o, on the spot and for all the month—closing to-day with a little more firmness, and 2,000 bbl at 22½c, March delivery; 500 bbl, old, b o, for first half of February; 125 for last half of February, and 1,000 barrels for March; 1,000 bbl S W, for February, and 2,000 bbl for March at 23½c, b o; 500 barrels for March at 23½c, b o; 1,000 barrels S W, for June, at 24c, b o; 1,000 barrels S W, for July 25c, b o; 1,000 barrels S W, for August at 25½c, b o; 1,000 barrels S W for August at 26c. Free oil ranges from 42 to 46c, as to quality and quantity. Residuum is quiet, we quote at 4@22½c ₩ gallon, as to quality, which is worth 6 cents, but the article is inactive. Prices of Lubricating oils are steady, and in good demand. Crude Petroleum is quiet and American Natural at 40@50c; and Mount Farm at 60@65c. Crude Petroleum is in fair demand, with sales of No. 1 in small lots at 45@47½c; sizes out of bar at card rates; in fiber plates 6c to 8c; sheet iron 8½c to 7½c; horse-shoe 6½c to 7½c; Norway nail rods 10c to 11c; English cast steel 22c to 28c; Pittsburgh 7½c to 8c; slab steel, best quality, 10½c; steel wings 10c.

Nails—The stock of nails is large and dealers have made concessions. We quote 10d keg lots at $5 100@ 5 25 for iron, and lobbing lots at $5 25. Retailing at $5 50@5 75.—*Journal.*

IRON AND NAILS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
SATURDAY, Feb. 8, 1868. }

IRON.

Common Bar size	3½@ 4¼
Horse Shoe	6 @ 6½
Round Iron	5 @ 5½
Hoop and Light Band	5 @ 5½
Round and Square	4½@ 5
Oval	5 @ 5½
Half Oval and Half Round	5 @ 5½
Boiler Iron	5½@ 6
Tank Iron	5

All sheets over 28 in. wide, 3c ₩ lb extra.

Blue Annealed	4½@ 4¾
T. Rail, 12, 16, 20 and 25 lbs to the yard	4½@ 4¾
Spike Rods	5½@ 6
Coal Screen Iron	5½@ 6¾

American Cleared Juniata.

Sheet Iron, 16 to 17	6¾	9
" " 18 to 24	7¾	9¾
" " 25 to 26	8	10
" " 27 to 28	7¾	10
" " 29 to 30	6½	9

All sheets over 28 in. wide, 3c ₩ lb extra.

NAILS.

10d to 60d Nails, Fen	7 50
Clinch and Brads	7 50
8d and 9d	7 50
6d and 7d	8 00
4d and 5d	9 00
3d	10 00
Casing Nails	8 50
Finishing Nails	9 00

Casing Nails—6d, $8 25; 8d, $8 00; 10d, $8 75; 12d, $8 75; 20d, $8 50.

Finishing Nails—6d, $8 75; 8d, $8 50; 10d, $9 25; 12d, $8 25; 16d, $8 25.

Barrel Nails—Fencing Nails, $8 00; 1 inch, $7 25; 1¼ inch, $6 50; 1½ inch, $6 00; 1¾ inch, $6 00.

Horse Nails—6d, $6 00; 8d, $5 75; 10d, $5 50.

The above are the card rates for iron and nails in small lots, but the large lots can be purchased 7½ to 10c per keg less than the card rate, net cash.

PITTSBURGH MARKETS—WEEKLY REVIEW.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
SATURDAY, February 8, 1868. }

Pig Iron and Blooms.

The market for crude iron continues fairly active, which is more especially true of forge descriptions—and although there is not the least disposition to buy speculatively, the sales indicate a fair consumptive demand.

We are advised of negotiations being had for some large lots, but as yet the details have not transpired. Foundry descriptions continue dull, and with but a limited consumption, prices are but nominal.

We are quoted the following sales:

Bituminous Coal Smelted from Lake Superior Ore.

1,000 tons medium gray Forge, delivered at Furnace, $5 ₩ual Income—$27 00—2 mos
500 tons medium gray Forge, delivered at Furnace, at private terms—cash.

(At furnace for another market.)

350 tons white and mottled at furnace—cash.

(For another market.)

100 tons medium gray Forge—$33 00—cash.

100	" mottled	37 00—1 mos
240	" close gray	39 50—3 mos
200	"	37 00—1 mos
200	" open gray Forge	37 00—1 mos
40	No 2 Foundry	42 50—4 mos
80	No 1 "	45 00—4 mos
470	" Mahoning Forge	priv. terms

Anthracite.

20 tons	No. 1 Foundry	$45 00—4 mos
200	" white Forge	39 50—4 mos
100	" Mariella	38 00—2 mos
25	" gray Anthracite	42 00—4 mos
200	" gray Anthracite	36 50—3 mos
200	" and gray	36 50—3 mos
100	" Western gray	37 00—4 mos
100	" " a favorite brand	37 50—4 mos
200	" gray Forge	39 50—4 mos
40	" No 2 Foundry	42 50—4 mos
80	" No 1 Foundry	45 00—4 mos

Charcoal.

100 tons	gray Forge	$48 00—4 mos
70	"	47 00—4 mos
50	" Empire Forge	47 00—4 mos
50	" low grade Hanging Rock	38 00—6 mos
64	"	priv. terms.

Blooms.

100 tons	No 1 Juniata Blooms	$91 00—6 mos
40	"	priv. terms.

Iron Bars and Nails.

During the past week there has been but a limited amount of orders received for iron bars and nails. Nearly all the mills are running more or less, according to the demand, and to stock up for the Spring trade, which is anticipated to be good, although it will not be as active as usual. We have no change to note in prices from those reported during the past three weeks.

Copper, Steel and Tin.

The market for these articles continues very dull, no transactions of any moment whatever having been reported for some weeks past. Prices remain unchanged.

Glass.

The demand for window glass is confined to the actual consumptive demand of dealers, and the trade is therefore very quiet. There is, however, more inquiry from the west, and many dealers are looking out for a fair spring business, now that prices have been reduced to the lowest possible point, and so low that foreign glass cannot be imported at a profit. One of our large manufacturers informs us that by dint of close application he has succeeded in getting the reduction asked of their skilled labor and are now running both their works and are full of hands. Others will probably soon follow, although some of the manufacturers still contend that the reduction secured is not sufficient, and will not justify them in starting their works. Stocks with some of the manufacturers have been considerably reduced, but others hold large amounts of glass, so that our Western friends may rely upon getting everything they want in the line of their spring sales, and upon more favorable terms than they can purchase the imported articles.

We quote sales of small lots at 90 per cent. off list. By car loads of 250 boxes several sales at from 90 to 95 per cent.

We quote as follows, which is the uniform standard price throughout the United States, viz:

	2d quality.	1st quality.
6 by 8 to 8 by 10	$5 00	$6 50
8 by 11 to 10 by 15	6 00	7 00
10 by 12 to 10 by 16	6 00	7 00
10 by 18 to 16 by 24	8 00	
17 by 22 to 20 by 30	12 00	
20 by 24 to 24 by 30	12 00	
24 by 26 to 24 by 36	12 00	
24 by 28 to 24 by 40	12 00	
24 by 30 to 24 by 45	16 00	

DOUBLE THICK CHARGED BY DOUBLE AMOUNT RATES.

All fractions of inches shall be counted as full inches, and all sizes not specified in the classification shall be charged according to bracket, indicated by greatest length or breadth.

Leads.

Trade very quiet and nothing doing. The price at which sheetings and prints have been sold for some time were too low, and a slight advance is now enforced. We do not think that even this movement can effect trade to any extent, as it is the intention of very many of their customers before March, and seldom buy spring stock before the latter part of February. But the market for brown sheetings is very firm, and all makes of brown goods have an active demand. Print Mills are reported as having sold ahead of their production, although running to their full capacity. The following are the prices of to-day, showing an increase of ½ ₩ yard on sheetings.

SHEETINGS.

Anchor	15½
Eagle	14½
Lonsdale	14½
Magnolia	13½

PRINTS.

Wamsutta	16
Smackeag	15½
Manchester	15½
Gloucester	15½
Dellinger	15
Lancaster Gingham	18

BLEACHED GRAIN BAGS.

First common, ₩ M	80 00
Coarse	70 00
Heavy and Standard	60 00
Partition Boards	50 00
Shelving on both sides	50 00
Shelving on one side	35 00
Plow and drop weatherboarding	35 00
Rabbited weatherboarding	35 00
Half inch patent planed	25 00
Half inch patent unplaned	20 00
Twelve inch vertical, with stripe	30 00
Oak and Yellow Pine flooring boards	60 00

Miscellaneous.

In Manilla, hemp and oakum there is nothing of moment doing, only a fair stock on the market at fast prices. Crackers are in fair demand and unchanged. Shingles are in good demand, and prices remain as before. There is very little doing in lumber from yards and nothing from rivers. Prices are unchanged. We have nothing special to remark in regard to other branches of trade.

MANILLA, HEMP, AND TARRED CORDAGE, OAKUM, &c.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
SATURDAY, Feb. 8, 1868. }

The following are the current prices:

Manilla cordage
Do do assorted
Do do 6 and 9 thread
Do do 12 thread
Do hawser laid oil well rope
Do Tarred Manilla, tarred
Do tar rope
American hackled hemp tarred cordage
Do do untarred
Sisal cordage
Do do 6 and 9 thread
Do do tarred bolt twine
Jute tarred cordage, assorted
American hemp sash and bell cord
Do hemp carpet batt twine
Do hemp packing
Sunn hemp, packing
Hemp bagging

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1868.

TERMS:

One copy, per year.....$2 00
Six copies of twenty, per year.....1 50
One copy gratis to the getter-up of the club.

LET THERE BE A GENUINE FREE LAW.

From Harrisburg we learn that the Senate Railroad Committee are disposed to agree to a provision in the Free Railroad Law restricting the issue of bonds to the amount of the paid capital, and another requiring ten thousand dollars a mile to be subscribed and paid before a company can commence operations. With these restrictions—which are the ones asked for by the recognized agents and managers of the Pennsylvania Central—the law would be practically inoperative. And we think we do injustice to no one when we express the opinion that it is precisely for this reason that they are urged. That any friend of a practical free law should consent to their insertion, is not a little extraordinary. Under restrictions like these not one in five of the roads now in operation would ever have been built. The Western Pennsylvania Road, which is owned by and is a part of the Central, was built entirely with bonds; and practically this is true of the other lateral roads of the central trunk. In the West, railroads are mainly built on the bond system. Nor is there any valid objection to it. Persons having money to lend are generally sharp enough to look out for their security. Were it to be proposed to loan the credit of the State, then it would be well for the State to have the benefit of its restriction. The bond system has worked well everywhere, and is the universal rule; and we undertake to say that the only reason why the dollar for dollar provision is proposed now is because, if adopted, it will accomplish what otherwise cannot be done—the practical defeat of the bill. The objections to requiring a subscription to the amount of ten thousand dollars a mile are based on the same general reasons. The proposition proceeds from the same source with the same purpose. The House bill, which is making good progress, is unobjectionable in this respect, and we sincerely hope that the friends of the Free Railroad Law will take just what they have promised the people, and listen to nothing less. The people are not going to be satisfied with a law clogged and hampered with restrictions placed on it by the monopoly.

THE TURN OF THE TIDE.

The testimony from nearly every quarter is that times are easier, that the prospect is brightening, and that hopefulness has taken the place of the doubts which prevailed, and were growing stronger and stronger, twenty days ago. Doubtless this change has been brought about by a combination of causes, but it is chiefly attributable to the arresting of contraction by Congress. The all-but unanimous vote in the two branches of Congress in favor of the anti-contraction bill reflected the settled and intelligent conviction of the country, that the embarrassments which for many months had been growing greater and more threatening, were the inevitable result of Mr. McCulloch's policy of contraction, and that a panic—a general crash—could be avoided only by arresting it speedily and absolutely. Says one of the most intelligent financial writers of the New York press:

"The enforcement of contraction during late months, caused a general embarrassment of commercial operations and a serious interruption of confidence. The money market was unduly subjected to small panics, causing a sudden realizing upon products and securities, and the banks were consequently driven into a policy of extreme and unnatural caution. Towards the close of the year, business was thus brought into a condition bordering closely upon general panic; and it is upon the basis of such a condition of impaired resources and weakened confidence that preparations for the trade of 1868 have been made. Consequently, we have a stoppage of the process of contraction. Owing to the limited provision made for the spring business, however, the wants of the mercantile community will be out of all proportion unnaturally contracted; and yet the banks and private lenders, being no longer influenced by the fears engendered by contraction, are now prepared to lend a larger proportion of their available funds which have been driven out of productive or mercantile employment by the dangers attending contraction, are now seeking investment in securities or are offering on the open market for loan. We have thus, at the same time, a restricted opportunity for money for ordinary business purposes, and an unusually large amount of funds seeking employment."

As the natural consequence of this state of things, money in the principal financial centers—and measurably so elsewhere—is comparatively abundant at a low and still falling rate of interest. Large sums are seeking government and other securities, and it will not be long before the general business of the country feels—indeed it already begins to feel—the stimulating influence of the turn of the tide.

Congress should have no hesitation about pursuing the policy which at the outset has produced such good effects. Let it apply itself vigorously to the work of retrenchment, and let it, with as little delay as possible, execute the purpose of adjusting the taxes so as to remove the burthen which represses enterprise and deprives labor of employment. It is gratifying to know that it is no longer doubted that this can be done. Practical men begin to perceive that the financial problem has quite as many imaginary as real difficulties, and that there is little occasion for evil foreboding—least of all for the "panicky" feelings which it is the office of croakers to create.

ANOTHER TROLLOPE.

The Cable the other day informed us that the Rev. Newman Hall, having returned from his visit to the United States, was lecturing on this country to large audiences in Mr. Spurgeon's Church, London. We were inclined at the time to wish that the report had been that his audiences were small and that little importance was attached to what the man had to say. We had a suspicion of the way he would talk about us—not that he was at all unfriendly, but because we conceived that Mr. Hall was not the man, if he was, that his visit among us had not been of the kind to enable him to instruct Englishmen in any valuable way concerning us. An unfriendly speech, if it be thoroughly intelligent, is less to be dreaded than the twaddle of a superficial observer, be he ever so much a friend. And it seems that we were correct about the Rev. Mr. Newman Hall and his speeches concerning the people of this country; if the following, which Mr. Smally writes from London to the New York *Tribune* can be relied on:

> I fear the breed of Trollopes is not extinct. If the present races of tourists do not caricature as Mrs. Trollope did, they misrepresent as did both the Trollopes, mother and son, they caricature it quite as effectually. The Rev. Newman Hall is a man of ability, and the sort of mirror which he holds up to nature is not very flattering and not very truthful. Before this gentleman went to America on a begging mission for the benefit of his church. Having filled over 50 pulpits by force of mediocre talent, he is now fulfilling the other by lecturing here on his American experiences. Now, I am not going to say that his offensive than being abused it is being patronized; and no one who has read, in the newspaper reports of the Rev. Newman Hall's lecture, it is this latter sin of which he is guilty. He appears to have kept a note-book in which he entered the absurd remarks and incredible stories and details of figures, whether published or not, he reproduced in his lecture as illustrations of American culture and manners. He tells, for instance, he fell into a ditch because there was no fence, and somebody who wanted to see how much an Englishman would pay to see a fall did not require railroads in America, but they were required in England to prevent people falling in. This the Rev. Newman Hall accepts and repeats as a genuine expression of American opinion. He went to a negro church in Chicago, and complains that the women were too smartly dressed, but then, as a reducing trait, they exhibited genuine grief at a funeral, "especially the young woman who was to have been married on the following day." It is recorded as a phenomenon that Mr. Robert Lincoln, to whom Mr. Hall said, "In our country the man is not His Royal Highness, he is the citizen," should not be a solicitor, "with its coat off, writing away at his desk." All this and a great deal of the rubbish of a similar extracts, is sufficiently puerile and absurd, but it has a climax in the story told by the Rev. Newman Hall to a crowd of John Bull's American friends who rejoice in Mr. Hall's anti-slavery zeal, will be a little amazed to find him presenting to them as to the English audience as a negro pugilist. A "son of John Brown's master" is reported by Mr. Hall to be disapproved of the laying of the ditch for inner by John Brown with his arms bare: how he and the Kansas hero marched to the house together behind the house; and how, suddenly, he did not know where he was until he found himself in the arms of John Brown, who said, "Young man, you had better get a bit of raw meat, and bathe your eye."
>
> I am almost inclined to cap this story with one which was told me recently by Wilberforce, who said he could have kept the bank at hazard, one night at a nobleman's house in the country, and to have won £600. The difference between this story and that about Wilberforce may be true, while the John Brown story is such arrant nonsense as the late Father Tabernacle preacher, lately itinerant in America, ought to be ashamed of.

AT LAST.

The law repealing the charter of the Connellsville Railroad has been wiped from the statute book of the State. It had previously been pronounced unconstitutional as the unanimous decision of the Supreme Court. Justice, though tardy, is complete. To the whole State—and in an especial manner to Pittsburgh and that portion of the State through which the line of the road runs—this is an event of the highest importance. Not only have great principles been settled, but a valuable franchise has been preserved from the power which seeks either to control or destroy whatever seems to have the slightest antagonism to it. We congratulate the population along the line and of the regions adjacent to the route—and in especial manner the officers of the company whose interests were placed in such deadly peril—on the victory they have won; and won, too, by means of which they need not be ashamed.

The Connellsville road will be built. That it may be built speedily, let Pittsburgh put her shoulder to the wheel. Every business man here—the whole community—realizes how great is the necessity for another outlet eastward. We present in our columns to-day the proof—to be followed by much more—showing how sorely we are made to suffer from the want of competing lines. Pittsburgh can afford to contribute largely towards completing this road; and in regard to it we wish our city might feel and act as she has felt and acted in the case of the Allegheny Valley road, wherein was demonstrated that Pittsburgh can, if she will, build her own railroads, and own them, too.

THE NORTHWEST AND TIDE-WATER.

The Chicago *Post*, referring to the restoration of the Connellsville Railroad Charter, makes the following remarks:

> Now the immediate prospect is that a route, shorter by eighty miles than any now in existence between Chicago and Washington, will be opened as soon as the road from Connellsville to Cumberland, and a link from Point of Rocks to the capital can be built. But greater than this is the victory over the lately dominant monopoly of Pennsylvania, the passage of a free railroad law, and the opening of a more direct route from Pittsburgh to New York. Thus the quarrel between the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Road, and the Pennsylvania Central bears fruit. As pertinent to all this, we may say that it is on the cards that the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago, with its prospective Eastern extensions, will be the outlet for the seaboard traffic of the Chicago and Northwestern.

It was rather more than half a dozen years ago that stories were put in circulation that Gen. Grant was frequently intoxicated. The remark of Mr. Lincoln at the time was, that he would be glad to know where Grant procured his liquor, for he would like to send some of it to several of his other generals. The story has been revived. Considering everything, it is a wonder it has slumbered so long. But no one is disposed to vouch for its truth. It was set going in a sensation dispatch to the *World*, caught up by Wendell Phillips—who while rolling it in his mouth like a sweet morsel declares that of its truth he knows nothing at all—and repeated by the more outrageous of the Democratic press. For a hard drinker—which they would have us believe Grant is—it must be confessed that he gets on amazingly well—not only in the performance of his public duties, but in keeping the evidence of his bad habits so close that nobody can speak in anything more than the faintest hearsay and at long intervals. It will occur to most of persons that by this time, the habit if real, should begin to tell on the man, and that somebody should be able to speak with some degree of positiveness. Either the General is the most wonderful man alive, or the aforesaid report should be received with a grain of allowance. To say the very least, if there were more just like Grant, in office at the seat of government, the people would be better satisfied, and be willing to run all risk as to habits. Grant's liquor, as Mr. Lincoln suggested concerning his Generals, might do some others a great deal of good.

There was a meeting in New York, Thursday evening last, of publishers and authors, in favor of an International Copyright law. One gentleman favored free trade in authorship and the book business; this, however, was resented by the Rev. Samuel I. Prime. It would seem, therefore, that these gentlemen who are generally free-traders, find it convenient to repudiate their doctrine when it comes home to themselves. Now, if it is good to have free iron, free cloths and free wines, why is it not just as good—better even, since it is the domain of mind that is in the case—to have free authorship, which would be nothing but free brains? If it is necessary to protect the brain-products of our country, why should the muscle-products go unprotected? The principle of protection—with a slight variance in its application—is the same in the two cases. Most of persons will conclude that if there is to be free-trade in anything it should be in books.

Jefferson Davis recently wrote a letter to some of his Mississippi friends and fellow-mourners for the "Lost Cause," in which he used the following language:

> "Your sufferings and losses have been to me ever present through all the trials to which you so feelingly refer. The desolation which everywhere presents itself in that once prosperous country this every year will with sorrow; but I hope that better days will soon come to us. The patient fortitude, the cheerful energy, and many virtues of your people display in the depth of their misfortune, cannot fail to bring the due reward."

What innocent sufferers these rebels are! What did they attempt to do? To overthrow the Republic and set up a Confederacy, whose corner-stone should be slavery. After a bloody contest they failed. Their present condition is the necessary result of their crime. And yet the arch-traitor speaks to his fellow-participants as patient sufferers under oppression, as though the rebellion was a righteous act, the failure whereof entitles them to the commiseration of the world! It is a shame to the Republic that this man can write such words.

A recent New York letter to a Charleston paper stated that a movement was on foot by certain Democrats to bring out Commodore Vanderbilt for the Presidency. A corollary to this is the statement that, within the last few days, Vanderbilt has addressed a letter to Mr. A. T. Stewart withdrawing from the Cooper Institute Grant movement. Of course he assigns a reason, and he gives, in explanation, that Gen. Grant's course in connection with the return of Secretary Stanton to the War Office does not please him. The letter has not yet been made public, but it is looked for shortly, and its publication is expected to prove a high bid in the interest of the anti-Pendleton movement alluded to in the Charleston letter.

The idea of the United States and Russia being in league and of the consequent necessity of a counter league on the part of the other European powers, was boldly argued in the recent great debate in the French Legislature. Michael Chevalier was the orator who chiefly addressed himself to the subject. Though favoring a peace policy for France he was for suitable preparations in view of what he considered the alliance into which he alleged the United States and Russia had entered. However funny these things sound in our ears, they serve to illustrate how great has been the growth of American influence in the affairs of the world.

It is thought that the stay in this country of Mr. Thornton, the new British Minister, will not be long. He left his family behind and sailed with but a single servant. At first it was thought that his selection had special reference to the settlement of the Alabama claims, but it is now denied that he has any instructions in regard to that question. On the contrary, it is asserted that England has said and done all she intends, and will await whatever may happen to be in store for her. Mr. Thornton was presented to the President on Friday.

A report reaches us from Washington that the President has, for the moment at least, taken the question of the Alabama claims out of the hands of Mr. Seward and made a peremptory demand on the English Government for a settlement. It is added that "they will be enforced at whatever hazard," and that if the British Government does not respond satisfactorily a declaration of war "must eventually ensue." It should be noted that this piece of news has not as yet disturbed affairs much.

Toledo is one of the so-called Vanderbilt roads, and it jumped up twelve per cent. last week under very heavy sales. Pittsburgh comes in in the same line; but it has not run upquite so rapidly, though it is one of the rising stocks.—*Independent.*

Considering how wonderful is the effect of the Vanderbilt wand, the stockholders of not a few other roads would feel themselves blest were he to consent to wave it over them. In soberness, it is not the man but his system of managing railroads which confers the benefits; and it is precisely this that stockholders everywhere should strive for, even though it should cost a change of management.

Mr. Dickens, it is now said, will return to England in the latter part of April, his proposed tour through the West having been abandoned. Of course the burning of Farwell Hall in Chicago is not the real reason, although it is the one given; and it would scarcely suit Chicago to have her poverty thus set forth. There are other good halls—besides the famous Opera House—in Chicago; and Chicago is not the whole West. We are left to infer, then, either that Mr. Dickens perceives that by confining himself to New York and one or two other cities, he will be able to make the goodly sum he came for, or that he is convinced that in the West he would fail of obtaining the patronage he counted on. Which is it?

Besides the reductions in the expenses of the Government already referred to, a further reduction of nearly $7,000,000 has been made in the appropriations for Judicial and Legislative expenses for the ensuing year—a saving of more than half compared with the expenses of last year. It is by such strokes of economy that the Republican party is redeeming its pledges made to the country to economise the expenses and reduce taxation. A reduction of from seventy-five to one hundred million has already been made, and still the work goes vigorously on.

The election in Alabama to determine the fate of the new constitution, commences to-morrow and will continue four days. The "conservatives" have resolved and resolved to accomplish its defeat; but persons entitled to speak with some degree of confidence do not hesitate to express the belief that it will carry by a large majority. With such a result this week, the month will not elapse without seeing Alabama represented in Congress.

Burning to Death in Railway Cars.

A repetition of the terrible Angola disaster was narrowly escaped at Lewisburg, Ohio, about midnight January 27, by a train on the Atlantic and Great Western Railway being thrown from a track by the displacement of a rail. It seems that a rail had been taken up from the track near a small embankment, evidently the work of some criminals for the purpose of plunder. When the train left the track the sleeping car was thrown upon its side, and the passengers in the berths had to use all their strength and activity to extricate themselves from the mass of bedding in which they were involved. A kerosene lamp was broken and the oil drenched the bedding, and the expiring wick ignited it. Some persons made their escape through the windows, and others were fortunately rescued through the exertions of John C. Brinsley, of Crestline, Ohio, conductor of the train, whose coolness and courage are highly commended. Those who tried to escape from the rear of the sleeping car found the *door locked*, and were compelled to retreat through the burning car, almost suffocated with smoke, and narrowly escaping through the front door. Many of the passengers experienced great suffering from exposure to the cold, nearly all being without hats, coats, shoes or stockings, and distant from the nearest village one mile. The only comfort they experienced was the warmth imparted by the burning car. Fortunately the baggage car was broken open, and the baggage secured before the flames had reached it. The suffering passengers were thus enabled to clothe themselves.

Probably no foresight could have prevented the accident. But the question is again strongly presented, will not railway managers learn a lesson from experience? The Angola disaster has turned the attention of the public and railway officials to considering some safer way to heat cars than by stoves, or to providing some safeguards against setting fire to cars from stoves. An equally important question originates in this disaster at Lewisburg, and that is the lighting of cars. Had candles been used in this sleeping car in all probability no fire would have occurred, the car could have been righted, and the suffering passengers been saved much discomfort and injury.

The locking of the doors of railway cars is a most reprehensible if not criminal offense. A law of Pennsylvania prohibits it on the roads running within her territory, but we fear the law is not at all times observed. Public safety demands that an example should be made at once of those who violate this law in this State. The accident at Lewisburg does not come within the provisions of the law, but this train, had no accident happened to it in Ohio, would probably have passed through Pennsylvania with its rear door locked—a clear infraction of the statute. Other roads, it is stated, violate the law in this respect, and if an example were made of them it might cause a proper observance of it in the future. If it cannot be enforced, then it will be the duty of every passenger to take with him as personal baggage a heavy ax with which to hew his way out of locked cars in case of accident.

A Genuine Gorilla.

A live gorilla is now on its way from Africa to the London Zoological Society. It was captured by a native, who suddenly came upon a family group of the animals. The mother, contrary to what might have been expected, abandoned her "baby" and ran off; the father showed fight, rushing at the native open-mouthed, and receiving a stab in the side from the spear, which caused him to retreat a little; when the man, not waiting to receive a second attack, snatched up the young one, and made his retreat home as soon as possible. The gorilla is fed upon goat's milk, raw eggs, and berries. A Mr. Walker, the possessor, writes:

> The grief of the little fellow when first captured was quite touching to witness; he could scarcely bear to be looked at, and, if at all annoyed by the persons around him, would, like a child, roll on the ground, with his face buried in his hands, and sway his head from side to side, as if in an agony of sorrow at losing his parents; and even now, when left alone for any length of time, he has relapses of the same kind, and appears to be in great tribulation.

Taxes Due the State.

Allegheny County is indebted to the State in the sum of $27,542 03, taxes due and unpaid. Of our neighboring counties, Armstrong owes $6,096 74; Cambria, $6,834 94; Clarion, $4,-860 98; Erie, $17,958 46; Fayette, $9,014 50; Greene, $6,780 59; Indiana, $8,315 14; Lawrence, $8,951 21; Mercer, $9,835 31; Somerset, $8,969 60; Venango, $8,813 78; Washington, $748 72; Westmoreland, $12,759 30. The only counties which have paid their liabilities to the State are Beaver, Blair, Butler, Centre, Crawford, Delaware, McKean and Montgomery. The total amount due the State is $664,836 19.

Mr. Johnson Going In!

A Washington letter, referring to the scramble among the Democrats for Presidential delegates, says: That Andrew Johnson desires to be re-elected you need go no further to prove than the recent contest among the Democrats in Philadelphia, where his friends claim to have secured a good share of delegates. All the Democratic officials are expected to support him, and many of them will; and as he religiously believes in the potency of patronage, and as the use he has used it to mould public opinion into approval of his actions, he will not be slow to insist upon practical gratitude for favors conferred. His own backers, and they are many, number hundreds of land, lost twenty thousand dollars cash last year. Another planter of life long experience, and a prudent, careful business man, says his losses in farming five hundred acres will exceed ten thousand dollars.

Eighth District, Ohio.

Official returns from the Eighth District show that the great Union victory was won upon an increased vote. In two counties we have the following result:

	October.	January.
Morrow	4,040	4,294
Delaware	5,039	5,009
	9,079	9,209
Increased vote		130

General Beatty's majority in Delaware county was two hundred and fifteen more than that given to Governor Hayes; and in Morrow county, General Beatty's majority was eighty-five more than Governor Hayes's. This is a very gratifying exhibit. It indicates a sweeping majority in November for Grant.

Don't Buy an Organ

Until you have heard that wonderful musical triumph, the Burdett Organ. The performance of even a child upon that perfect instrument is more touching and musically entrancing than the flourishes of practiced players upon most other organs. The effects of the *vox humana* (human voice) and celestial stops—a late invention and found in perfection only in the Burdett Organ—are touching and sympathetic in the extreme, and comparable only to the heart-searching and tremulous tones drawn from their violins by an Ole Bull or a Vieux Temps. The Messrs. Kleber & Bro., No. 102 Wood street, have the sole agency, and will be glad, no doubt, to show these organ gems to all who may desire it.

The latest accession to Mr. Pendleton, is the St. Paul *Pioneer*, which declares that Minnesota will cast her vote for him in the National Convention. A barrel to advance his nomination is to be opened in Washington. In proportion as his prospect improves, the opposition to him become more active, though they have not as yet concentrated on any one.

PRESIDENTIAL.

Asa Packer, the Eastern Pennsylvania millionaire, wants the Democracy to nominate him for President.

Nearly every State has announced one of its citizens as a candidate for the Vice Presidency, and we seldom find journalists of our State favoring candidates from other States. The following indorsement of Ex-Governor Curtin, by the Tazewell, Ohio, *Republican*, is noteworthy. For the benefit of our Ohio contemporary, and all who may think likewise, we desire to state that Pennsylvania is not a doubtful State by any means, and that she will give from twenty-to fifty thousand majority for the Republican Presidential nominees, whoever they may be. The *Republican* says:

> "With Gov. Curtin on the ticket we could sweep Pennsylvania, the only doubtful Northern State. He would roll back the broken column of Democracy as he did the rebel wave in the dark days of the war. He would marshal the host of Freedom as he did the immortal fifteen thousand reserves, and as they saved the battles of the Nation on the field, so would he rescue this and their State from the danger of Democracy.
>
> "Such nomination would inspire confidence in the people of the whole Union, for there is no name in the eventful history of the last six years around which cluster greater glory and more fully awarded laurels than his. It is to be hoped that this nation will never again have to mourn the loss of a President by assassination, but if it did, and Governor Curtin was Vice President, he would not dip his hands in the blood of his dead chieftain, and with hellish glee glee extend them to the murderers of the martial chieftain, and sell for the pleasure of a bachanalian orgie, the principles of his party and the best interests of his country.
>
> "Governor Curtin is a true man—and to true men let us cling. Let us not be betrayed a second time, for there is no saying to what length another galvanized Southern rebel can steal into power through the betrayed confidence of the friends of Union, Liberty and Law."

The Republicans of Susquehanna county held their county convention a few days since and among other resolutions passed the following in favor of Mr. Grow for the Vice Presidency:

> *Resolved*, That Hon. Galusha A. Grow, by his integrity of character, his ability as a statesman, his experience as a legislator and presiding officer in Congress, his unwavering devotion through a long period of public service to liberty and the rights of man, is eminently fitted to bear our banner as lieutenant of the great commander in the final struggle for the Constitution and the Union. We do therefore earnestly urge his nomination for Vice President.

The Columbus *Journal* says: The following papers in Ohio have declared for Mr. Chase for President. A glance will show that the list contains some of the most influential papers in Ohio: Ashland *Times*, Ashtabula *Sentinel*, Butler *Telegraph*, Bucyrus *Journal*, Cleveland *Leader*, Jackson *Standard*, Oberlin *News*, McConnelsville *Herald*, Ottawa *Union*, *Western Reformer*, Sandusky, Ohio, *Register*—in favor Chase, without being fully committed. Ripley *Bee*, Mac-a-cheek *Press*, Wilmington *Republican*, Sandusky *Register*, Xenia *Torchlight*, Cincinnati *Commercial*, Mt. Vernon *Republican*, Ironton *Register*, Miami *Union*, Bucyrus *Register*, Zanesville *Times*, and Lebanon *Star*. Of the remaining Republican papers of the State, twenty-nine are fully committed for Grant, others are understood to favor Grant, and a small number are for Pendleton, and the rest non-committal. It is safe to say that all will support the nominee of the Republican party, with their utmost vigor and ability.

Statistics of Trade and Commerce.

The report of the Director of the Bureau of Statistics has been published. The preliminary portion is devoted to an exhibit of the objects and difficulties of the Bureau, the latter springing from a variety of causes. By the aid of the assessors of the country a census was taken in 1866 that gave a population of 34,505,882, or 3,060,802 above 1860. The cotton crop table showed 5,489,535 acres sown in 1867, in thirteen States and one territory, with an estimated yield of 1,917,385 bales of 400 pounds each; the common estimate being 2,500,000 bales. The publications of the Bureau have been exchanged with European countries. Its library contains 3,000 volumes, and a sample of commercial commodities is being arranged. The foreign commerce for the year ending with June last was $729,000,000. For 1866 it was $846,000,000; but excepting this, it was never before so large, and was $178,000,-000 larger than the average for 1861-'66, inclusive. The total southern exports from northern ports for the last fiscal year were $83,000,000, and the total exports of southern products, in currency, $328,407,000; the total domestic exports of the country being for that year, in currency, $371,605,000; the proportion of southern products to all domestic products exported being 60 per cent. The cotton export of the fiscal years exceeds in value all previous years, save 1865-'66, and 1866-'67, the diminution in our foreign commerce since 1856 has been mainly in exports, the imports having fallen off but one-third of the total decrease. But gratifying as this is, it is to be regretted that the growth of our commerce is in foreign vessels. In 1866, 31 per cent., and in 1867, 31.6 per cent. was in American vessels and vehicles, and 69 and 68.4 per cent. in foreign. The value of exports for the first quarter of the fiscal year, 1867, ending September 30, 1867, are more than $12,000,000 in excess of the same period last year. The trade movement with Eastern Asia has grown greatly. For 1866 it was $60,000,000; 1867, $70,000,000. These statements are substantiated in tables showing the bullion movement from 1821 to 1866, and the domestic exports, merchandise and specie; also of foreign merchandise imported and re-exported; the name and value of United States commodities exported in the fiscal year ending June, 1867; foreign re-exports; foreign and United States tonnage entered and cleared; warehouse transactions for a number of years, and other interesting material. The facts reported are essential to knowledge, and well arranged, and will be welcomed with much pleasure in all parts of the country.

To Cure the Inebriate.

The second annual report of Joseph Parrish, M. D., President of the Pennsylvania Association of Pennsylvania, is out. He states that the sanitarium, for persons suffering from the effects of alcoholic stimulants and opium, was opened for the reception of patients on June 18, 1867, since which time there have been under treatment twenty-six persons—twenty-four of whom had been addicted to the excessive use of alcoholic stimulants, one to the habitual indulgence of opium, and one to opium and whisky.

Dr. Parrish continues his report as follows: The first step in the recovery of an inebriate is to remove him from the associations which have surrounded him in his daily life, and at once to ignore the claims of appetite. Appeals to pride, as a vagabond and offcast, but as an unfortunate brother who is entitled to consideration and sympathy. The next step is to inspire him with confidence in the efforts that are being made for his relief, and the necessity of his co-operation in the use of the means that are instituted in his behalf. Having secured to him personal comforts and sympathy in the midst of new and improving surroundings, all of which have drawn out the concurrent efforts of his own will, he can appropriate successfully the medical appliances that are proffered him and be greatly benefitted, though truth demands the avowal of the fact that there are inebriates whose moral strength has been so far prostrated by excesses, as to render recovery an impossibility. For the transfer of such a class to an institution, may guard and defend them from hasty destruction, and at the same time be an inscrutable relief to their families.

Famine in Tunis.

A correspondent of the London *Telegraph* gives an account of the famine in Tunis. The country is in a most wretched state. The Arabs are dying by thousands from cold and starvation. In Tunis alone 8000 have died in two months. The streets are full of orphans from three to eight years old, naked and starving, and, the cries of their dying mothers abandon their children, well knowing that in Europans for less than a shilling. Private charity can do little, and the embarrassed government not much more. In Prussia affairs are not much better. Letters from that country portray the intensity of the distress in terrible language. Out of twenty-two houses visited in one village on Jan. 1st, but two were found to contain any fire, and there was not a particle of food in them. The thermometer that morning stood at 58 degrees below the freezing point. A more hopeful state of affairs is presented in France, and public beneficence seems to keep pace with the wants of the destitute. The Empress Eugenie, in Paris, and the Countess of *Jolie Poste*, in Paris, were crowded with articles, generally of first necessity, which has been pawned by workmen in distress, and he had issued orders for their gratuitous return.

The culture of cotton in Arkansas this year has not only proven unprofitable, but positively disastrous. Labor, rents and provisions have been high, and the present low prices yielded but a meagre return; to which must be added the large expense of freights, commissions, insurance, wear and tear of implements, stock, &c. A well known planter near Fort Smith, who has been cultivating nearly eight hundred acres of land, lost twenty thousand dollars cash last year. Another planter of life long experience, and a prudent, careful business man, says his losses in farming five hundred acres will exceed ten thousand dollars.

The coal statistics for the United States show that in 1867 the whole supply of anthracite was 12,650,571 tons, being an increase of 271,081 tons over the previous year. Of bituminous and semi-bituminous the supply in 1867 was 13,996,369 tons, showing a decrease of 82,578 tons under the product of 1866. Of both kinds there were sent to market 11,096,376 tons, about one-third not reaching the seaboard. Thus, on the line of the Schuylkill, were used 1,107,826 tons, and between Mauch Chunk and Bristol, 912,525. The total amount of coal mined in 1867 was 25,800,000 tons.

General Grant's proposition, adopted unanimously by the Trustees of the Peabody Fund, that as large a portion of the principal, not exceeding two hundred thousand dollars, as can be advantageously used in promoting the object of the trust, should be expended during the present year, is getting general satisfaction. It is in accordance with the express permission of Mr. Peabody, that a sum not exceeding forty per cent. of the principal may be thus expended; and in view of the prevailing destitution throughout the South at present, the expenditure of this sum now will be more necessary and useful in promoting the great object in view, than a larger sum in ordinary years.

In Ireland the Fenians are actually objecting to pay rent for land, and that their organization is so perfect that it is impossible to carry out the ordinary processes of law in such cases. Bailiffs are hunted like wolves, and if offenders are arrested they are promptly acquitted by Fenian juries. As for sales of seized property, no man bids for his neighbor's goods. The landlords are naturally much alarmed at this new phase of discontent, and are almost in despair at the prospects. They are touched at last in the most tender point.

RAILROAD FREIGHT DISCRIMINATIONS.

Letter from General Cass.

Pittsburgh, Jan. 30.

To the Editor of the Chicago Republican.

I notice in your review of the Chicago provision market, of Jan. 25th, the charge of unjust discriminations made by railroad companies in the matter of freights, against the Chicago market and in favor of Cincinnati. There is, I am constrained to say, a foundation for this charge, but it does not lie against this Company. The proper officers of this Company have made every effort the last two weeks to reduce the rates from Chicago to New York on provisions, and to place Chicago provision dealers on an equitable basis with the dealers at Cincinnati and other Southwest points, but have failed in their efforts in consequence of the unwillingness of the Trunk Line, so called, to make any reduction. Please, therefore, exonerate this Company from the general charge made in your issue of the 25th, and above referred to.

G. W. Cass.

Pres't P., Ft. W. & C. R. R. Co.

STATE NEWS.

Work on the monument to the memory of Pennsylvania soldiers who fell in the Mexican war is progressing steadily at Harrisburg.

The nailers of Harrisburg are still on a strike, but it is stated that a number of the feeders have been at work for some days past.

Mrs. Jane Wilson, one of the pioneers of Venango county, died in Cherrytree township on the 25th inst., in the 79th year of her age. On one occasion, during the infancy of her first child, she made a voyage with him to Cincinnati upon a raft to visit some relatives there, and returned on horseback, carrying the child in her arms.

The rolling mill employees and the employers, at Norristown, have compromised by a reduction of ten per cent. in wages. The men are now all at work.

About ten o'clock on Tuesday morning the oil in a seven thousand barrel tank, owned by Mr. James Parshall, at Tidioute, caught fire from a spark made by the striking of the stop cock with a hammer. There were about four thousand barrels of oil in the tank at the time, and about one thousand barrels were run out of the tank and into tank cars and saved. The remainder, three thousand barrels, were slowly burned up. Loss between $10,000 and $12,000.

A Seminary in North East, Erie county, is contemplated, seventeen thousand dollars having been subscribed for that purpose. Twenty thousand dollars is required to place the institution on a firm basis.

Sharon is said to be growing more rapidly than any other town in Mercer county.

Wm. J. Ovens, assessor and saloon keeper, charged with the murder of Colonel William Riddle, formerly of Pittsburgh, has been acquitted in the Criminal Court of Philadelphia.

The snow is drifted in such immense piles in Northampton county as to make the roads impassable.

The Scranton papers announce that portions of that city are visibly sinking into the depths of an old coal mine. Considerable alarm is felt among the inhabitants.

Gowin McIlvaine, Esq., one of the oldest and most influential citizens of Washington county, died at his residence in Mt. Pleasant township recently, in the seventy-sixth year of his age. He was a soldier in the war of 1812.

Mr. Daniel Cook, of Somerset county, a few days ago shot, wounded and captured a grey eagle, measuring six feet ten inches from tip to tip of its wings. The body is very large and heavy. The claws are of the thickness of a finger, and the ankles the size of a man's wrist.

On Tuesday last the family of Mr. George Colby, of Fayetteville, Franklin county, was poisoned by eating apricots that had been preserved in a tin can. Timely application of the proper remedies prevented fatal results.

One Paul Spencer, convicted of horse stealing in West Chester on Monday, and sentenced to four years' imprisonment at hard labor, when on his return to the Court House to the prison made a violent assault upon the Sheriff, felling him to the ground with a weapon prepared for the purpose, made of part of a sheet from his bed, in which were tied up hooks and nails taken out of the walls of his cell. The Sheriff on recovering his feet discharged four balls at him without effect. He was shortly afterwards captured and returned to prison, expressing regret that he had not killed the Sheriff.

The Philadelphia *Press* says: On the 3d of this month Captain Charles Snyder, of the Eighth United States Infantry, reached the Girard House, in this city, and remained until the 9th instant, leaving the hotel after dinner for New York. The Captain was stationed at Raleigh, North Carolina, and was on a twenty days' leave of absence. He was on a visit to his father's residence in Harrisburg a few days on the day of his arrival in this city, intending to stop about eight days in Philadelphia and New York. During his stay here, and just before leaving his hotel, Captain Snyder was paid by Colonel Perkins, paymaster of the United States army, stationed in this city, and it is feared that he has been waylaid and murdered, as no single trace of him, since he left the hotel, has as yet been discovered.

In Philadelphia on Friday morning the police made a raid upon the different newsdealers, in order to suppress the sale of obscene papers, which have been carried on quite extensively of late. All the edition of a journal filled with indecent cuts, the publication of which has been commenced in New York within the past few weeks, was seized. Some six or eight places were visited, and bundles were obtained at them all. Upwards of 1,000 papers fell into the hands of the police, and were taken to the Central Station.

It is said that the Model Farm, located in Chester county, is likely to prove rather expensive to the good people among whom it is placed. They were first called upon to contribute to the purchase of the farm, and are now asked to stock it. The Chester County Agricultural Society has agreed to contribute this spring $5,000 to the scheme, and will have a voice in the control of the farm, and it is understood that the Trustees of the Pennsylvania Farm School have agreed to the proposition. This plan of getting fictitious folks to buy the farm, stock it, and keep it going, does not promise very brilliant results.

The annual election of the Allegheny Transportation Company was held at Corry on Wednesday last, and Henry Harley elected President; W. H. Abbott, J. P. Harley, W. D. Brown and J. Douglass, Directors. It is said this Company own or control nearly all the working Pipe Lines on the Creek, have a very liberal and comprehensive charter from the Legislature, and intend to use their franchises most effectually.

Died, at Chambersburg, January 18, 1868, John Berryhill, Esq., aged 85 years and 1 month, in the full possession of his mental faculties to the moment of his death. At 12 o'clock M. he mailed a last letter to his son, at Davenport, Iowa, bidding him good-bye, with a God's blessing. The last words of a postscript were: "I am going to a better city." At 1 o'clock P. M. he sent a package by express to his daughter—then packed his trunk, directing it to be sent to his son, in Iowa City, and died at 4 o'clock, his physicians thought of apoplexy.

Isaac Davis, of Beaver township, Columbia county, has in his possession a bible printed in 1666, that came to America in the same vessel that brought over the founder of Pensylvania —William Penn. Mr. Davis and wife are about seventy-five years old respectively. The bible has been in the Davis family since it landed at Philadelphia in 1682.

A man named Yonson, a shingle maker, left Philipsburg on Friday, January 17th, partially intoxicated, with a horse and sleigh; and on Saturday the 18th, he was found, in the Allegheny mountains, near Philipsburg, frozen to death. The horse was also dead and stiff. This is a terrible warning to those who are in the habit of indulging freely in intoxicating drinks.

The Sheriff of Luzerne county has levied on and advertised for sale all the property and franchises of the Union Coal Company. One portion of this property was acquired last year, the price paid being $1,750,000. The property of this Company, situated in Wayne county, was sold some weeks ago, the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company becoming the purchaser, as it developed that a portion of the property located in Luzerne county. Indeed, it is quite probable the Union Coal Company was organized for the express purpose of being sold out; its property and franchises thus falling into the possession of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company. This will work an augmentation of its privileges which it could hardly have obtained from the Legislature.

It is proposed to make a new county out of the southeastern portion of Lancaster county, and the southwestern portion of Chester county. The new county will embrace the townships of Fulton, Little Britain, Drumore, Colerain and parts of Sadsbury, Bart, and Providence, in Lancaster county, together with the townships of East and West Nottingham, Upper and Lower Oxford, West Fallowfield, Highland, Londonderry, Penn, New London, Franklin, London, Britain and Elk